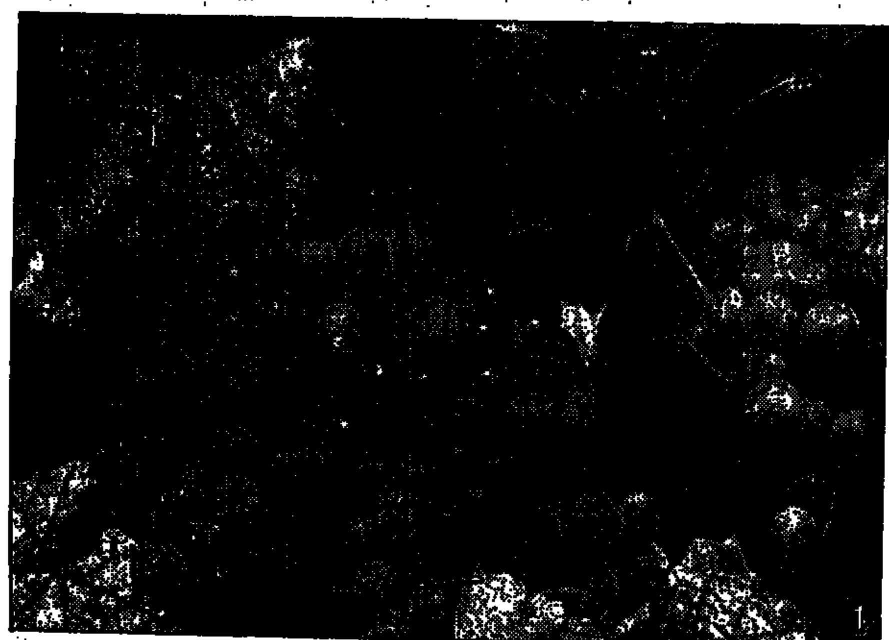
Routes to tour in Germany

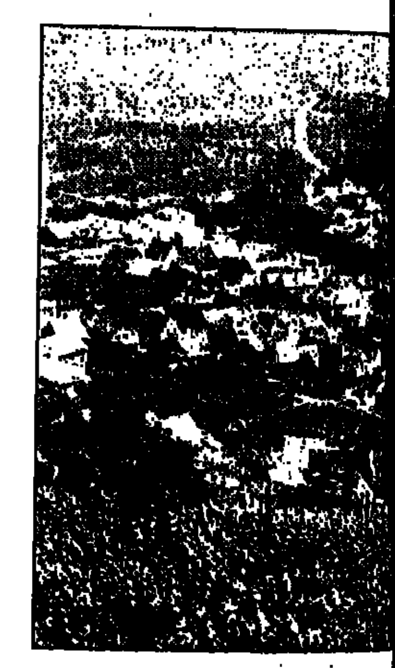


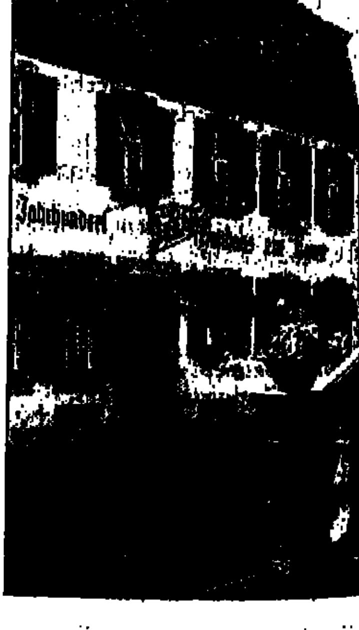
The German Wine Route

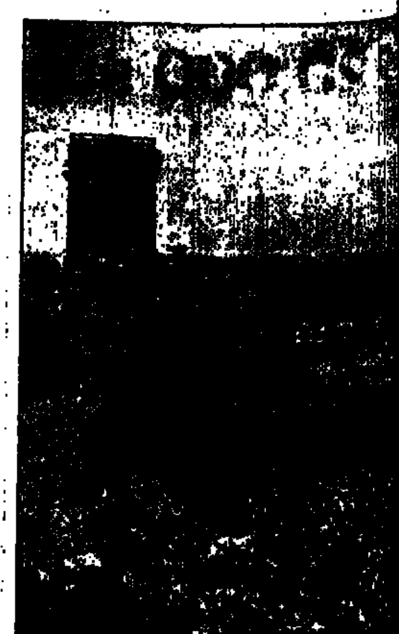


German roads will get you there – to the Palatinate woods, for instance, where 2,000 years ago Roman legionaries were already growing wine. Each vine yields up to three litres of various kinds of wine, such as Riesling, Sylvaner, Müller-Thurgau, Scheurebe or Gewürztraminer. Grapes are gathered in the autumn but the season never ends. Palatinate people are always ready to throw a party, and wine always holds pride of place, generating *Gemütlichkeit* and good cheer. As at the annual Bad Dürkheim Wurstmarkt, or sausage market, the Deidesheim goat auction and the election of the German Wine Queen in Neustadt. Stay the night in wine-growing villages, taste the wines and become a connoisseur.

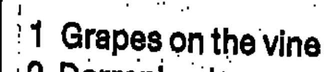
Visit Germany and let the Wine Route be your guide.

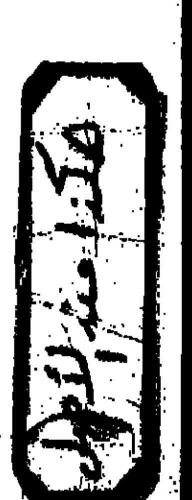






1 Grapes on the vine
2 Dorrenbach
3 St Martin
4 Deidesheim
5 Wachenheim





The German Tribune

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Stern words of advice from Gromyko and Mitterrand

Twice in a week the Federal Republic of Germany has seen for itself he difficulties that confront Bonn foign policy.

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Gromyko, spent three days in Bonn in a bid renew the policy of balance and cooration.

The Federal Republic is the country e Soviet Union still associates with hat it suffered at German hands in the cond World War.

Mr Gromyko also outlined the alarm- consequences that would ensue for Germans if the Federal Republic re to run counter to Soviet security terests.

In other words, he warned what ould happen if Bonn were to carry out missile modernisation part of the ato resolution.

He was followed within less than 48 ours by President Mitterrand of rance, a country that boasts intellecual and treaty ties with the Federal Reblic that are the most cordial.

M. Mitterrand made it no less clear ow dangerous for us, for Europe and or France it would be if Bonn were to andon the twin-track Nato resolution.

He agreed with the Kohl government nd with US President Reagan that the eterrent alone safeguarded peace, that worked only when there was a nuear balance and that the balance was urrently upset in Europe by the numer and quality of Soviet missiles.

The French leader gave an assurance hat he had no intention of intefering ith the domestic policy debate, which bound to gain in intensity as the generał election campaign gains momenum.

But he probably has no objection to eing quoted on this issue by Helmut ohl even though he is a Socialist and err Kohl a Christian Democrat.

Before Herr Kohl took over from err Schmidt in Bonn the French were orried the German peace movement as showing unrealistic signs of neutraism and pacifism.

Now Hans-Jochen Vogel is Shadow Chancellor they are evidently still worried this soft spot might be spreading to the party as a whole.

Under Helmut Schmidt the SPD viewpoint was at least laid down mainly by the Chancellor, whereas now it is a free-for-all with the soft spot in the running.

It must also have come as a shock to the French to hear leading German Social Democrats state in public that basically the British and French nuclear forces were negotiable at the US-Soviet talks in Geneva.

This is not exactly what was said. The arguments put forward by people such as Egon Bahr are more complicated but not lacking in political logic.

Including Soviet security interests they are, in a nutshell, that the Americans may not be strictly able to negotiate on the subject of the British and French nuclear potential, both being sovereign states, but that the potential is there nonetheless.

So it must be included in setting off Soviet missiles against Western missiles available in Europe.

This is an argument that is lacking in instinct, to say the least, and it would have been unlikely to be put forward by, say, Helmut Schmidt.

Herr Schmidt was long one-sidedly Anglo-American in his leanings, but intensive and cordial ties with M. Mitterrand's predecesor, M. Giscard d'Estaing, made him conscious of French sensitivities.

The French think in categories of grandeur and both act and feel in a much more European manner than the Germans when it comes to emancipation from US apron-strings.

Herr Schmidt well knew that he could only hope to take a more self-assured stand toward Washington and look after specifically German interests in total harmony with Paris, if at all. That was entirely in keeping with the philosophy of the treaty signed by Adenauer and de Gaulle 20 years ago. True, the Franco-German treaty may have set seal to a reconciliation between the two countries that cannot be rated highly enough given centuries of hostility between them. But it is risky to use the term friendship in politics; it can lead to misunderstanding. Maybe the treaty did indeed end long-standing rivalry between France and Germany, as Chancellor Kohl said in Paris. But he was right to refer to differences of opinion that still remained. Fundamental disparities are undeniably a keynote of Franco-German relations. The most important one is that France is a sovereign nuclear power, whereas the Federal Republic has solemnly undertaken neither to manufacture nor to own nuclear, biological or chemical weapons.

Continued on page 2



Chancellor Kohl (left) and President Mitterrand of France after his Bundestag speech marking the 20th anniversary of the Franco-German friendship pact. (Photo: AP)

Missile debate in full swing as campaign fever mounts

The missile debate, which wasn't due to go into top gear until after the summer recess, is already in full swing in the Federal Republic of Germany.

It wasn't due to go into top gear until the final stages of the Geneva talks between the Russians and the Americans when results are pending, or not, as the case may be.

The issue at stake is medium-range missiles, with the Soviet Union expected to disarm and the West considering missile modernisation.

With a general election campaign gaining momentum in Germany, security as a feature of party-political manifestos is bound to add an element of additional excitement.

Disregarding for a moment the day-to-day statements by the parties concerned, which tend to confuse matters more than to shed light on them, the first point to be made is that a zero option can be ruled out.

Second, the British and French missiles will not form part of the equation.

Third, it is the hundreds of Soviet SS-20 missiles that led to the Nato resolution in the first place and might make missile modernisation by the West indispensable.

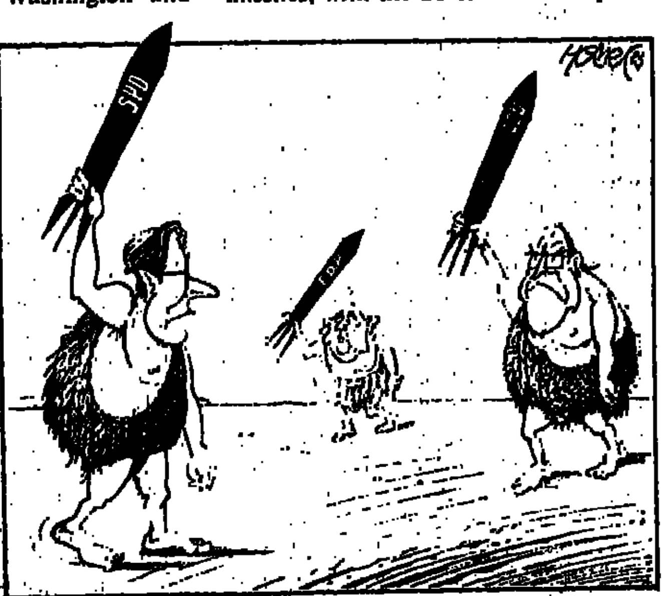
Offering to scrap a few dozen SS-20s will not be enough if several hundred remain.

Fourth, it must be said that the Soviet empire including its Eastern European satellites cannot be held together by the power of an idea but solely by military power.

Military pressure and superiority are indispensable, as so many bids for freedom in the East bloc have shown. So Western Europe cannot afford to be the weaker of the two.

Wolf Ullmann

(Kieler Nachrichten, 24 January 1983)



A missile campaign?

(Cartoon: Hanel/Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

■ THE LAW

Hamburg police accused of ties with underworld

Blood and thunder has always been good for the reputation of Hamburg's underworld, but persistent allegations that the police and organised crime are hand in glove are less amusing.

After years of criticism Hamburg's police chief Günter Redding, 59, has resigned. He is felt to have been unsuccessful at cleaning up the force.

Towards the end of last year shootouts in the city's underworld reached alarming proportions, going a little too far even for the Reeperbahn and St Pauli.

At Ohlsdorf cemetery there were funerals reminiscent of Chicago in Al Capone's heyday, the first being that of Michael Luchting, known as Micha the Beaut.

A good-looking man he may have been, doubtless befitting a St Pauli pimp, but not when he was found hanging from a tree in the Lüneburg Heath.

Micha was imprisoned by the Spanish police for 149 days accused of being a white-slave dealer, during which time his empire of prostitution on the Reeperbahn came apart at the seams.

He had been a leading member of GMBH, a gang of pimps (he was the letter M). At Ohlsdorf he was given a send-off in style, with a fine sermon, several thousand carnations and a Rolls Royce made of flowers.

A fortnight later it was Klaus Breitenreicher's turn. "SS Klaus" and Jürgen "Angie" Becker were killed in an Eros Center shootout by other pimps.

The shooting was said to have been in connection with a prostitute.

Frank Schubarz, known as Sachsen-Franky, ran a brothel and was one of the mourners at Michael Luchting's funeral. It was his turn next.

He was shot and dangerously injured by a prostitute at his home in Blankenese, a high-class residential suburb on the banks of the Elbe.

Doctors later testified that the prostitute showed signs of having been seriously battered herself.

These goings-on were reminiscent of the early days when the struggle for power in Hamburg's underworld was in full swing. The police would probably be happy if that were still the case.

Nowadays, however, shootouts are rare. Organised crime is said to have taken over and the police are alleged not to have realised what was going on until it was far too late.

There are even allegations of close ties between leading police officers and the underworld having prevented the force from effectively combating the trend.

Police chief Günter Redding, who is now on leave at his own request and has applied to be pensioned early, is not accused of contacts with the underworld.

He is said to have let things slide for far too long. He was a fine administrator but is claimed not to have been ruthless enough in cleaning up the force.

That is not how he sees the situation. He once told *Hamburger Abendblatt*, the local evening paper, he would welcome the lion tamer's job.

But he doesn't seem to have tamed anyone, certainly not in the CID squad responsible for handling burglary cases, which was a law unto itself.

The distinctive methods the burglary squad developed combined clearing up crime and dealing in stolen property in a manner that was decidedly illegal.

The basic idea was that the stolen goods were bought back, with next to no questions asked.

A number of police officers are said to have earned good money on the side in this dishonest brokerage. The police and the underworld seem to have dealt with each other on equal terms.

There have been persistent and much more serious allegations that leading Hamburg police officers worked hand in glove with underworld bosses.

The two names repeatedly mentioned are those of retired CID chief Hans Zühlsdorf and Reeperbahn restaurateur Wilfried Schulz.

Schulz won a court order forbidding anyone to call him the Godfather of St Pauli. He is currently in custody on suspicion of having set up a criminal organisation.

Zühlsdorf, who made a name for himself both in Germany and abroad as a specialist in fighting organised crime, is said to have had too close ties with Schulz.

There were even rumours of blackmail, rumours the police eventually had to look into. It did so by using illegal bugging devices.

Views differ as to what came to light. The police chief and Hamburg's senator for home affairs, at that time Werner Staak, said nothing had come to light that substantiated the allegations.

Police officers who took part in the investigations disagree. One of them has told his tale to *Der Stern*, the illustrated weekly, which is serialising it.

He is now himself the subject of police probes, accused of using the illegal bugging devices that are agreed to have been used in the case.

It is striking that Zühlsdorf himself as the officer in charge of investigations and a reputed specialist in organised crime said in 1979 there was no such thing as organised crime in Hamburg.

That was the year in which the FBI gave the Hamburg police the tip that there were links between the US underworld and the city's own world of crime.

A year later another special commission, consisting of CID officers and public prosecutors, came to a different conclusion.

Unlike Zühlsdorf, who had until then been backed by Dr Redding, his boss, the commission found that there were signs of organised crime but no indication that the police were in any way incriminated.

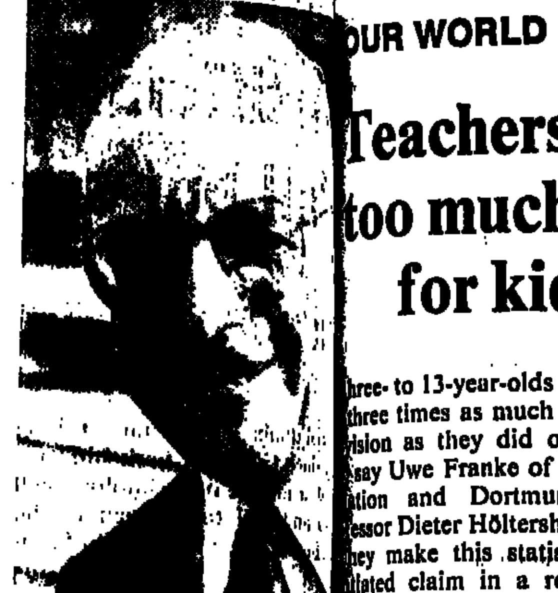
But the home affairs committee of the city council was damning in its condemnation of the ineffectual way in which the city's police force was run, and this view was shared by all political parties.

The committee found that the police had for years, despite clear indications from investigative work, failed to take suitable action.

That was the point at which Dr Redding ought normally to have called it a day, but city police chiefs are thick-skinned. They have to be, and there are enough cases to prove the point.

While Dr Redding stayed on the job the Hamburg police saga took its course regardless, passing him by to all intents and purposes.

Home Affairs Senator Alfons Pawel-


Günter Redding

czyk set about cleaning up th[e] ... The burglary squad was scrap[ped] ... its members transferred to other ... ments regardless whether or ... were suspected of impropriety.

New regulations for dealing ... derworld contacts were drawn ... the police launched a fully ... campaign against organised cri[me].

Wilfried Schulz was taken in[to custo]dy as part of the dragnet. ... Pawelczyk says time and again ... police are honest for the most ... though there are black sheep ... where.

But the last word has not y[et been] said. There are still far too ma[ny ru]mours and allegations that need ... into, not to mention the death ... police informers.

The authorities are now cons[idering] setting up a commission of inqu[iry] ... entrusting the city council with ... rough investigation.

Karsten ...

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 7 Jan...)

Bremen group monitors police force

Last October a Bremen lawyer, Rolf Gössner, 34, and a journalist, Uwe Herzog, 26, had a book published that blew the lid off police methods in Germany.

It is entitled *Der Apparat*, An Investigation into the Police, and was published by Kiepenheuer & Witsch, Cologne.

It is a non-fiction title that has caused an ongoing upset, and a Bremen group set up to monitor police activities has its work cut out.

The blurb on the book's dust jacket explains what the two authors had in mind:

"This is an attempt to find out what goes on behind closed doors in the police force, both day by day and in large-scale campaigns.

"Observation, on-the-spot reporting, and eye-witness accounts describe and outline the police inroads into everyday life.

"Confidential documents, police statistics and scientific literature are cited to prove and analyse the drastic extent and growth of the police apparatus in the Federal Republic of Germany."

What the book does is list one accusation after another, some of which may well be justified, but whether it succeeds in proving its case is another matter.

Former police officers are quoted and said to have plucked up the courage to speak out about what they experienced in the force. But why did they wait until they themselves were in the clear?

Photos of police officers toting guns and beating up members of the public are undeniably impressive, but they can hardly be said to be all part of the day's work for the average police officer.

Albert Lohse, Bremen's police chief, was reminded of a sketch by the Munich cabaret star Karl Valentin. He quoted Valentin as saying:

"I am sitting on the toilet reading your review. I still have it in front of me. I shall soon have it behind me."

The paper the book was printed on and the size of the pages, Herr Lohse wrote in the police magazine *Deutsche Polizei*, made him feel much the same.

The book was prompted by the revelations of Rudolf Oltmanns, who worked for 10 years as an officer at a Bremen police station.

He saw for himself, writes Gössner, how the police dealt with members of the public and how prejudiced many of them were against people on whom suspicion had been thrown.

Oltmanns is now a student of agricultural science. He and other police officers and ex-members of the force are quoted at length.

Reports from Berlin, Bremen, Düsseldorf and Frankfurt are prefaced with quotations from the Civil Service Act.

Civil servants (and all police officers are civil servants in Germany) are duty bound not to divulge details o[f their] work even after leaving the servi[ce].

Gössner says there have been ... police officers being hopping ... about the book and the peop[le who] wrote it and supplied the inform[ation it] contained.

But legal action has yet to be ... which the authors feel prove ... work is irrefutable.

Deutsche Polizei, the police ... zine, decided to forgo the DM2... it would have netted from a ... lumn advertisement booked by ... logne publishers.

The trade union journal origin[ally ac]cepted with thanks the advertise[ment to] be published in its December ... Then it had second thoughts.

On 19 November Kiepenheuer & Witsch were sent a second letter ... the magazine preferred not to ca[rry the] advertisement as envisaged and ca[ncel]led the arrangement.

The authors, Gössner and He[rzog,] are touring the country lecturing ... houses on behalf of their bid to ... groups to monitor police activities.

Everywhere audiences are kee[n to] learn more about the work of the ... men group. Other groups have be[en set] up so far in Emden, Tübingen, ... burg, Freiburg, Hamburg and ... mund.

The Bremen group are backed ... Humanist Union, a group of ... defence lawyers and the Greens, ... vironmentalist group in the city ...

They have set themselves the ... providing legal assistance to peop[le]

Continued on page 15

[O]UR WORLD

[T]eachers rap too much TV for kids

[T]hree- to 13-year-olds spend twice to three times as much time watching [tele]vision as they did only two years [ago,] say Uwe Franke of a teachers' as[soci]ation and Dortmund University [Prof]essor Dieter Höltershinken.

[Th]ey make this statistically unsub[stan]tiated claim in a review of what [the]y call the "media culture" to which [chil]dren are increasingly exposed.

Massive exposure to television, they [say], leads to serious development prob[lem]s with children.

[S]ays Franke: "Thousands of pre[sch]ool children of working parents are [alre]ady glued to the TV due to loneli[ness], fear and boredom."

Professor Höltershinken blames this [pri]marily on the introduction of a [mor]ning TV programme and the grow[ing] number of second TV sets in chil[dren]'s rooms.

[In] 1980, ZDF (one of Germany's two [maj]or TV networks) said that three- to [13-y]ear-olds spent an average of 71 mi[nut]es a day watching television.

According to Franke, viewing time [has] since doubled or trebled.

[S]peaking on behalf of the 16,000 tea[cher]s who are members of his organisa[tion], Franke maintains that "the intro[du]ction of a morning TV programme [and] the flood of video films, frequently [de]picting scenes of great brutality, have [cha]nged the children's viewing habits [an]d led to a dramatic increase in the [time] spent watching TV.

This has led to more aggressiveness, [em]otional atrophy, growing 'speechless[ness]' and cultural pauperisation."

Professor Höltershinken calls for an [ap]propriate TV education, starting in [kin]dergarten.

[M]uch TV seen by children is done [out]side the broadcasting times special[ly] provided for them, he says. As a re[sult], the children watch more adult than [chil]dren's programmes.

More than 25 per cent of three- to 13-[yea]r-olds are "TV addicts," he says.

[Ch]ildhood today means not only "TV [chil]dhood" but a sweeping "media [chil]dhood" that is dominated by the in[dust]ry and produces a "children's [cult]ure" that stimulates constant media [cons]umption, writes Professor Hölters[hink]en in an information booklet for parents and teachers entitled TV Education in Kindergarten.

He accuses the media of creating needs in children and exploiting these needs through clever advertising.

Professor Höltershinken applies the generic term "children's culture" to a wide range of products.

There is very little that is culturally sound provided for children in the form of films, children's theatre and visits to museums and similar institutions.

A conglomerate of media supplies the children around the clock. In fact, a uniform children's culture has evolved even in kindergarten in the form of a world of playing and learning toys, consumer goods and furnishings, all designed by experts and allegedly specially geared to children. Most of this stuff can be found in and ordered from a very small number of catalogues.

This "children's culture" ignores such basic childhood needs as exercise, "direct and palpable contact with nature and the environment in general" and lasting social ties.

Television in particular conveys values and behavioural patterns that are inconsistent with the children's experience of everyday reality with its natural conflicts.

As a result, the children regard the demands of their parents as being inconsistent with the standards conveyed to them by television.

Comments Professor Höltershinken: "This means that the children are faced with a 'conflict solution dilemma' at a most vulnerable phase of their development and that they don't know which standard should apply and how they should behave.

"Regardless of its response in a given situation, the individual child will always violate either the standards conveyed by television or those of its natural environment. This results in uncertainty and stunted development."

(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 6 January 1983)

Continued from page 14

fected by police activities, keeping a record of police activities in Bremen and the country as a whole and supplying a political explanation for individual inroads and the logic behind them.

There are also plans to set up an advisory council of public figures with relevant professional qualifications.

Ordinary people must monitor police activities, Gössner says, because the official channels have proved consistently ineffective in dealing with breaches of basic rights by the force.

The Bremen group has bags of mail pouring in to its Humboldtstrasse office. There are letters from girls on mopeds who were shouted at by police officers.

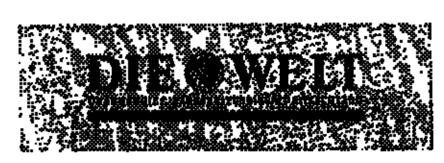
More seriously, there is the case of a man who has never had anything to do with the police and has suddenly found himself helpless to prevent them from searching his home.

Gössner says the group will keep records and check claims and encourage critical police officers to rethink their objective role in the anonymous and all-powerful police apparatus and draw appropriate conclusions.

Lilo Weinsheimer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 30 December 1982)

Claimants' union calls for fair deal, less red tape



Although barely 18 months in existence, the acronym Ifus (it stands for *Interessenverband für Unfallgeschädigte und Sozialleistungsempfänger*, an action group for accident victims and social security recipients) has become a hallmark of efficiency and is a lifeline for many.

"We have discovered a niche in the market," says Ifus Chairman Matthias Kusche of Ludwigshafen somewhat ironically.

The non-profit organisation's aim is to help its members with the problems they encounter after an accident due to difficulties in pressing insurance claims or the inertia of state bureaucracy.

The flood of applications for help bears witness to the need for such an organisation.

The applicants include some 550 people who have been involved in accidents and are now fighting it out with insurance companies or in court.

Matthias Kusche, 30, is himself crippled for life as the result of an accident, and though the accident happened five years ago he is still waiting for a settlement from the insurance company and the courts are also taking their time. So far there has not even been a lower court ruling in the case.

"Once a cripple always a cripple," muses Kusche, adding: "You can't be more crippled than crippled," in an allusion to the fact that experts are still unable to agree on the extent of his disability.

The fact is that Kusche was wheelchair-bound even before his road accident. But at least he still had one good arm that enabled him to handle a specially designed car. The accident robbed him of that arm, making him totally disabled and dependent on the help of others.

But the experts' opinions conflict with each other, especially as Kusche, a psychologist, was about to be appointed a university lecturer, a dream that was shattered along with his arm.

He is now suing the insurance company for damages amounting to hundreds of thousands of deutschemarks. The insurers are only prepared to pay a fraction of the claim.

This prompted him to launch his organisation in 1981 and become the champion of accident victims and social security recipients.

Ifus started not only a counselling service but also a mobile assistance service intended to familiarise lawyers, social workers, doctors and judges with the problems the disabled have to face.

The response has been overwhelming, especially among conscientious objectors doing nursing work in lieu of military service.

Kusche describes his cooperation with the Conscientious Objectors' Authority, acting as a placement agency, as smooth.

As he sees it, there is room for many more conscientious objectors in this line of social work in the broadest sense.

Ifus charges its clients DM5 an hour for brokerage services, though this barely covers costs and the fee is likely to be increased soon.

But none of this gets down to the actual root of the problem. What Kusche wants is to make the welfare department step in earlier and reduce the costs an accident victim has to bear.

If he gets his way, the expenses of an accident victim will be estimated at the beginning of a year and paid instantly instead of being reimbursed on presentation of receipts.

As things stand, the victim has to advance his expenses and then patiently wait for reimbursement.

Another Ifus objective is to increase the compulsory third party insurance cover for motorists to DM7.5m. His proposals are now being studied by the Bonn Justice Ministry.

Knut Teske

(Die Welt, 10 January 1983)



■ EAST-WEST TIES

Both sides satisfied with visit

Andrei Gromyko left Bonn on 19 January feeling satisfied, as well he might. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his West German opposite number, agreed that the Soviet Foreign Minister's visit had been necessary and useful.

Neither side might have changed its mind on crucial issues, but both had benefited from the encounter.

For Moscow the Federal Republic of Germany was the first Western country with which the new Kremlin leaders were able to to review relations and establish them on a working basis.

In Bonn Chancellor Kohl and his Foreign Minister were able to demonstrate that their CDU-led government is an opposite number the Soviet Union can and does take seriously.

Even though Mr Gromyko may well have been generous in his flattery of his German hosts the encounter was a tougher test of maturity for the new Bonn government than Herr Kohl's goodwill visit to Washington.

Ties between Bonn and Moscow, when viewed on their own, i.e. bilaterally, are only a minor aspect of world affairs but by no means one of no importance.

Both sides have a genuine interest in as satisfactory cooperation as possible, partly because it has a stabilising effect in Europe politically and partly because it is anything but a one-sided bargain economically, especially in the context of long-term cooperation.

What is more, from Bonn's point of view, trouble-free ties with Moscow are the final arbiter of relations with other neighbours to the East, especially the GDR.

This being so, Mr Gromyko's three-day visit prompted something of a renaissance of the 1970 Moscow treaty between the two countries.

Like Mr Andropov in his talks with Bonn Opposition leader Hans-Jochen Vogel in Moscow, Mr Gromyko in Bonn was untiring in his praise of the value and development potential of the 1970 agreement.

It was, as he saw it, a timetable for profitable detente, and the Bonn government made no bones about its intention of continuing with *Ostpolitik* on the basis of the treaty.

Chancellor Kohl may have reservations on whether both sides mean the same by detente, but in the course of Mr Gromyko's visit the Christian Democrats adopted the Moscow treaty, as it were, after 12 years of reluctance.

The signals for cooperation are not on red for stop.

Both sides have also learnt useful lessons from the visit in respect of German-Soviet ties in the context of world affairs.

In the current state of East-West affairs, which is distinctly chilly, Bonn cannot afford to take up an intermediate position, let alone a broker's role.

Moscow appreciated this fact given the definite manner in which both government and Opposition in Bonn came to the defence of the United States.

At the same time Bonn must bear in mind that for the time being it will remain the Kremlin's first port of call in the Soviet bid to get out of the sin bin it has been in on account of Afghanistan and Poland.

This provides Bonn with opportunities of exerting influence on both sides that ought to be used, with due consideration for alliance requirements.

The two sides finally learnt from each other in respect of a matter of life or death for Europe, the installation or scrapping of medium-range nuclear missiles.

Mr Gromyko made a point of creating an impression of decided moderation by and large, which seemed to indicate that Moscow does not at present set any great store by propaganda campaigns against the West's missile modernisation option.

Government and Opposition in Bonn both stand by the December 1979 Nato missiles-and-talks resolution, although their respective emphases differ.

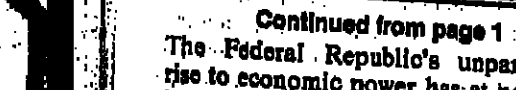
But the seriousness with which Moscow put its case ought to have convinced Bonn that Moscow is keen to break through the vicious circle of the arms race.

To this extent, as Konrad Adenauer put it in his later years, the Soviet Union has become a peace-loving power.

Following Mr Gromyko's visit to Bonn both sides must have realised once and for all that a decision can only be reached at the conference table in Geneva, be it even at the last minute.

Thomas Meyer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20 January 1983)



Continued from page 1

The Federal Republic's unparalleled rise to economic power has at no point in time offset this difference. Without the nuclear safeguards provided by its allies Bonn would have been helplessly liable to blackmail of any kind.

The hand of friendship held out by General de Gaulle nonetheless at no time went so far as to allow the Germans a share, let alone a say, in France's nuclear *force de frappe*.

There is no declaration to the effect that Germany enjoys protection beneath the French nuclear shield.

Not for nothing did President Mitterrand leave unanswered in his Bonn interview for German TV the question when and to what effect France's tactical nuclear weapons were to be used that could not be fired beyond the territory of the Federal Republic.

General de Gaulle shared with not a few Germans doubts whether the United States in the event of a Soviet attack on Europe would resort to a nuclear response and really risk its own destruction.

M. Mitterrand has spared the Bonn government the embarrassing need to choose between Paris and Washington, a choice that was felt to be impossible even in Adenauer's days.

Maybe Bonn now feels it no longer needs to exert the pressure on the USA the SPD Opposition feels is indispensable if the Geneva talks are to be brought to a successful conclusion.

Maybe America's domestic Opposition will perform this task satisfactorily, but President Reagan and his aides, men who are unenthusiastic about a compromise with the Soviet Union, could also feel encouraged by M. Mitterrand's stand, the determined nature of which will have come as a surprise even in the United States.

Yet one may also feel it is all very well for M. Mitterrand to talk and give advice. He had not just hosted Mr Gromyko.

Hans Schmitz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 January 1983)

Bonn sizes up situation in Mr Gromyko's wake

On his seventh visit to Bonn Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko left behind a twofold wish:

- In Geneva, where pressure of time was mounting, progress was gradually expected at the US-Soviet disarmament talks.
- In Germany the political parties ought to try and conduct the debate in a more objective manner and steer clear of missiles as a major campaign issue.

As a campaign issue the topic would make it more, not less, difficult to take a thorough look at ways of redressing the military balance in Europe.

In the wake of Mr Gromyko's visit the political parties in Bonn still have points in common.

Everyone realises that at the end of this year Nato must, by the terms of its 1979 resolution, go ahead with missile modernisation if the Soviet Union fails by then to meet the West half-way in reducing its superiority.

Everyone also knows that there is little likelihood of agreement being reached in Geneva on what in Bonn is still officially termed the specific ideal solution.

This solution is the zero option by which both sides would agree to dispense with medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

It may also be noted, witout pointing an accusing finger at Moscow in any way, that Mr Gromyko had nothing new to say in Bonn.

At present the Soviet Union insists on the proposal it submitted in Geneva last November, a proposal to reduce in number its SS-20 missile systems.

This amounts to an admission that the SS-20 and the threat it has come to symbolise has indeed given Moscow the edge over the West, which it long disputed.

It is now up to the Americans to reply to the Soviet move in Geneva. At the time of writing Vice-President George Bush was expected in Bonn for consultations on this issue.

The Bonn government would hear nothing of Mr Gromyko's allegation that the United States was solely to blame for negotiations having ground to a halt in Geneva.

But despite the general election campaign the political parties in Bonn cannot afford to ignore the fact that they have had and continue to have a substantial say in the US negotiating position in Geneva.

The SS-20 missile was first raised as an issue five years ago by Chancellor Schmidt, who referred to it as a dangerous intermediate, or grey, zone between tactical and strategic nuclear weapons.

In an uncontrolled sector below the strategic level the Soviet Union had set about building missiles designed for use over intermediate distances of up to 5,000km, or 3,000 miles.

In 1979 Nato at Bonn's wish resolved to station new US missiles in Europe from the end of 1983 unless agreement was negotiated on a reduction in the number of Soviet missiles deployed that were capable of reaching targets in Western Europe.

In terms of security policy this was a clear viewpoint, but it ran up against a sentiment that first gained a foothold in Helmut Schmidt's own party, the Social Democrats.

German Social Democrats, and not the United States, then hit on the ... that a zero option must be negotia... Geneva.

The tendency toward suppo... some such solution has been heigh... among SPD politicians and... Schmidt, Brandt and Bahr since ... cial Demorats have been in oppo... in Bonn.

Yet while Washington, at Bonn... hest, called on the Soviet Un... come to terms on the zero option ... neva the current feeling in Bonn ... that the zero option is no longer ... ble.

In the course of Mr Gromyko... the CSU leader, Franz Josef S... made it clear to Moscow that h... felt from the start that the zero ... Bonn's brainchild, was an un... idea.

Chancellor Kohl and Foreign ... ter Genscher have hinted for som... that while they continue to hope ... total renunciation of medium... missiles at some later date an i... agreement might first be possible.

As soon as Mr Gromyko had ... ed his plane back to Moscow th... drew up fresh tables of minimum ... posals for a solution to the num... missiles to be deployed by th... sides.

The new figures include all ... of numbers, but not zero.

Alongside complicated equ... next to no-one can check, dang... simplifications are also made.

The SPD has accused the CDU ... instance, of wanting to be given a ... date to deploy new missiles at the ... in March.

Chancellor Kohl gave rise to th... cusation by virtue of a speech he ... in New York. He should put m... right without delay.

There can be no vote on terms ... have yet to be negotiated.

Conversely, the CDU accuse... SPD of wanting a mandate for ... and against US missiles. The one ... sation is as polemical as the other.

Neither is suitable as window-d... ing for a party that lays claim to a ... rity capable of governing the count...

In reality none of the Bonn p... want more misiles to be stationed ... ther side. Given mutual acknow... ment of this laudable intention ... may naturally differ on ways ... means.

Subject to this proviso argu... may then be waged on the subject, ... or without a general election to m... a campaign issue.

Rudolf Stra...

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 January ...)

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GENERAL ELECTION

Christian Democrats falter after promising start

Battered by the burden of government, the CDU and CSU are swaying in the stiff breeze of the election campaign. Now they reject what they ...acted only a short while ago.

After years of calling for rent legisla...on be made more flexible, they now ...sociate themselves from the demand. What it all boils down to is bickering in...ead of political vistas.

The elan of the early days has worn ...hin; and the election that was to have marked a fresh start seems to have turn...d into a nightmare for the conserva...tives.

They started off wanting to do the ...ght thing. Now, all the CDU and CSU ...nt is to be successful. and, who ...ows, it might be this that could jeo...ardise their election victory.

The CDU/CSU/FDP coalition argu...d that it was necessary to bring about a ...ange for the good of the nation. The ...axim was that a determined leader...ship was needed to check the skyrocket...ing deficit, cut back on consumer ...pending and promote industrial invest...ment.

The idea was right and the timetable ...t.

To start with, the new government ...nted to carry out necessary repairs ...nd bring about a realistic budget. This ...is to be followed after the election by ...clean sweep of an allegedly ailing so...ciety.

The first part of the programme has ...y been implemented, no matter what ...the people might think of the justice ...individual decisions.

The budget has been made to fit eco...nomic conditions; and massive invest...ment promotion in private housing will ...ertainly help the construction industry.

But then, in the midst of its election ...ampaign, the CDU decided to change ...ourse with all signs of panic.

This is evidenced by the conserva...tives' campaign demand that what was ...iginally intended as a compulsory ...an to the government by the higher ...come brackets is now not to be re...payable.

This about-face detracts from the go...vernment's credibility. After all, the ma...jority of the CDU/CSU parliamentary ...oup bitterly fought the demand when ...was raised by the SPD.

But the objective of distributing the ...rdens more equitable by imposing a ...n-repayable surtax on high earners ...s still not been achieved.

The latest CDU/CSU demand is no ...ore than a declaration of intent and is ...odds with the government's actions.

The election platform promises much ...od that will eventually come the citi...en's way. The business community will ...given tax relief totalling several bil...on deutschemarks; the working popu...tion is to have a share in industrial ca...ital; and families are to be given tax ...lief.

Income tax is to be lowered across ...e board once the economy is back on ...feet.

It was taken for granted until recently ...at the consolidation of the budget was ...r from completed and that further ...tbacks in social spending were neces...sary.

But nothing is now being said about ...is. Labour Minister Norbert Blüm not too long ago stated that the social security pension fund would find itself unable to pay the pensions from its own resources as of next year.

A sweeping reform of the pensions system makes it mandatory for the citizen to do without some of the benefits he has been accustomed to.

But none of this has entered the platform, and the conservatives now have to pay for having assumed government without several options to fall back on.

Their quiver is empty, and their original will to replenish it for the campaign in a bid to get the voters' mandate for a clear-cut policy is flagging.

Their hope that the very fact of their being in government would bring about a change for the better did not stand up to economic realities.

Though the overall conditions for an economic upturn have greatly improved (interest rates are down, the current account is balanced and tax relief has been enacted) there are still no signs of a turn for the better — except in the eyes of the CDU/CSU campaigners.

It is hard to convince the public by pointing to specific facts that the sacrifices imposed on it were not only just but that the first fruits are already in evidence.

Seen in this light, it is not surprising that the government is despondent.

In Ancient Greece, the bearer of bad news had to fear for his life. All tht is at stake today is an election victory.

Paradoxically, the closer the election date the less do the political parties trust in the common sense of the voter. Yet they bank on being elected despite their wishy-washy platforms.

Wolfgang Mauersberg

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 January 1983)

CDU says what it stands for

The CDU campaign platform has been structured to tally with the party's decision to put the emphasis on economic issues.

Security policy, *Deutschlandpolitik*, European policy and development aid have been relegated to second place.

As to development policy, the CDU stresses that the aid criterion is not only the neediness of the recipient country but also the policy pursued by that country.

Development aid's function is seen as providing help towards self-help. In receiving such assistance the country concerned must recognise the legitimate economic and political interests of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The CDU says it is not prepared to support regimes that use their meagre monetary resources to buy arms, in some cases from the Warsaw Pact nations, while expecting West Germany to provide food and consumer goods.

"Western security interests are not the only criterion for our development aid policy. But nobody can ask us to act against our vital interests or to promote

Continued on page 5

ÖKOLOGISCH-SOZIAL-BASISDEMOKRATISCH-GEWALTFREI DIE GRÜNEN

Greens in conference at Sindelfingen, near Stuttgart

(Photo: Sven Simon)

Many Green supporters may vote SPD instead

The Greens sense that there is danger ahead. The general election on 6 March could suddenly check their seemingly inexorable rise.

Banished to the Opposition benches and relieved of governement responsibility, the SPD under Hans-Jochen Vogel is exerting a considerable attraction on potential Green voters, if the latest polls are any guide.

In any event, it is now by no means certain that the Greens will actually move into the next Bundestag. They themselves now no longer rule out the possibility of a future two-party government.

But even should they triumph on 6 March, euphoria is unlikely to last.

The debates at their party congress in Sindelfingen have once more confirmed that the Greens need more time, time to clarify their attitude towards power and social realities.

Granted, they have clearly matured despite their economic platform and the course they have charted to utopia.

Despite their grass roots democracy, the influence of those who have already done parliamentary work in the states and have learned to curb ideological flights of fancy is growing.

Even so, there was something eerie about the manner in which the Sindelfingen meeting discussed issues with total disregard for the problems that plague the public.

Their financial demands on the state are of a magnitude that proves their ignorance of the fiscal problems Bonn has to cope with.

It is in the nature of things that all parties should come up with lovely campaign platforms, pointing to a distant future.

The established parties offer, with varying degrees of success, short-term solutions that can be financed and stand a chance of finding a parliamentary majority.

Here, the Greens still have a great deal to learn. The fact is that where they do take a hand in legislative work they depend on the bills tabled by the established parties.

This is the only explanation for the fact that in Hesse there now seems to be an SPD/Green accord in the offing on the financing of an employment programme.

Internally, representatives of the Hesse Greens have even gone so far as to intimate that that state's SPD is not only pursuing a sound policy but that the Greens have actually no alternative of their own to offer.

As elsewhere, the Greens' success in Hesse found them totally unprepared. Now that they already bear legislative responsibility they have to start learning how to legislate.

This they can only do if they formulate their long-term programmes in a way that will give them enough scope for compromise in day-to-day parliamentary work.

The prospect of being enabled by the 6 March election to topple an incumbent CDU Chancellor seems to have forced the Greens to pursue a wide-open course.

While there can be no doubt that the obstacles they will put up for an SPD minority government would be considerable, the question is: will they maintain these obstacles when it comes to the crunch?

Some Green ideologues hope that the voters will give the conservatives an absolute majority and clearly put the new party on the Opposition benches.

This would relieve the Greens of the dilemma of a severe clash between the pragmatists and the fundamentalists in their party.

But even these Green strategists do not know how to stand their ground next to an opposition SPD that, following an election defeat, could step up its integration drive.

It is quite possible that the Greens are already contemplating the end of their parliamentary career should the SPD find itself in Opposition.

But even then they would be able to look back on considerable successes as a result of the challenge they represented for the traditional power structure over a number of years.

The political climate in this country has changed in the past few years, and there is now no party that does not attribute considerable importance to environmental protection.

There is also no party that has not become more sensitive and flexible on such issues as arms and peace.

By bringing about this change the Greens have altered the political landscape, a success that cannot be counted in votes.

Joachim Worthmann

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 17 January 1983)

■ **DATA ABUSE**

Security forces said to be too keen on video and computer snooping



The Hamburg news magazine *Der Spiegel* says police and security forces are increasingly using video cameras and keeping countless random facts and faces on computer file.

Data protection authorities are worried about the spread and possible official abuse of this form of computer snooping.

But there seems to be little likelihood of such Orwellian techniques being abandoned. There are cases in which they might fairly be said to serve a useful purpose.

Two years ago, just before the unsuccessful Red Army Faction terrorist attack on US General Frederick J. Kroesen, members of the Federal Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BKA), Wiesbaden, along with men of the Federal Intelligence Agency (BND) installed sophisticated video cameras in strategic spots around the general's Heidelberg home.

The cameras were hidden in street lamps, bird feeders and the casing of a roadside device installed to photograph traffic offenders.

The cameras and their recorders enabled the BKA men to monitor all comings and goings around the general's home.

They were technically so up to date as to have provided clear enough pictures to identify passers-by even at a great distance. They also made it possible to clearly read the licence plates of passing cars.

The snooping action, recently disclosed by the Hamburg news magazine *Der Spiegel*, has been confirmed by the BKA.

A BKA spokesman told *Stuttgarter Zeitung* that the pictures taken by the cameras were compared with photographs of suspected terrorists on file at the BKA.

He said that the persons concerned were further investigated only if the video shots showed a certain similarity with suspected terrorists.

The investigation was then continued until the person concerned was fully cleared of suspicion.

According to *Der Spiegel*, more than 200 people who happened to have been near General Kroesen's home at the time were screened by the police.

The BKA confirmed that the car licences recorded by the cameras were checked against the register of stolen cars.

The Criminal Investigation Bureau said that although the BND's function is restricted to gathering information abroad, help received from the agency was legally above board and covered by the Mutual Assistance Act for law enforcement agencies.

The watch, said to have cost about DM1m, did not prevent the attack on General Kroesen because it was staged outside the area under surveillance.

Similar operations were at that time in progress in Patrick Henry Village, a residential area for members of the US armed forces where several endangered generals live, and around the Mannheim residence of British Major-General Michael F. Reynolds.

The BKA spokesman said that none of these actions could be described as a sweeping and continuous video surveillance. He said that this was neither technically feasible nor legally permissible.

He stressed that such actions are permissible only in cases where a person's life was in imminent danger. Given such a risk, the spokesman said, the BKA would not hesitate to mount a similar action today.

But this imminent danger, which actually applied in these cases, can hardly be said to have existed in the case of two other surveillance drives with hidden video cameras, both of which have been confirmed by the BKA.

In 1981, this agency installed cameras in the busy concourse underneath Frankfurt's main railway station. The cameras were aimed at a news stand to photograph buyers of newspapers.

As in the previous cases, the shots were later compared with photographs of suspects on file with the BKA.

The idea in this case was to film people behaving conspicuously and anything out of the ordinary. This was based on the assumption that terrorists who have just mounted an attack would be trying to get as many national newspapers as possible to get an idea of press reaction.

In other words, anybody buying several newspapers was instantly suspect.

The other instance concerns video cameras mounted at Frankfurt's main post office to monitor passers-by who dropped letters into the box. In this case, the sleuths wanted to catch terrorists posting letters to claim credit for their raids.

The BKA spokesman conceded that his agency did not know which terror organisation would mount what attack against which installation. He said that this was a precautionary measure.

The 1981 monitoring actions spanned a period of about six months, though not simultaneously.

The spokesman said that there had also been other monitoring drives not disclosed by *Der Spiegel*.

Hans Peter Bull, the federal commissioner for protection against data abuse, has announced that he will be putting some questions to the BKA following the *Spiegel* disclosures.

He wants to establish to wha[t] the information gained from su[ch] monitoring is stored in the BK[A] banks.

Bull was aware even before th[e Spie]gel disclosures that such mo[nitoring] drives existed. The real proble[m] he is concerned lies in the fact [po]lice data banks contain inform[ation on] people who are not under suspi[cion] that this information is stored fo[r] a year without informing the [person] concerned.

In fact, data frequently remai[n on re]cord longer than a year and the [re is a] tendency to use methods devel[oped to] fight terrorism in connection wi[th other] crimes as well.

'Frightening prosp[ect]'

The commissioner terms the p[...] of a sweeping video monitori[ng cam]paign frightening. This relates [to an]other *Spiegel* disclosure that vi[deo ca]meras recorded a major demons[tration] in a German city to monitor th[e beha]viour of individual demonstrators.

The news magazine's source of [infor]mation is a former BKA engine[er who] was in charge of developing ne[w] screening technologies and who [had se]cond thoughts when he realised [the ex]tent to which such systems can b[e abus]ed.

Stefan G[...]

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 11 Jan[uary 1983])

Ombudswoman accuses state of breaches of privacy

Ruth Leuze, Baden-Württemberg's commissioner for protection from data abuse, has levelled severe invasion of privacy charges against the state government and its legislature.

The government of Prime Minister Lothar Späth and the CDU majority in the state assembly, Frau Leuze says in her latest report, have watered down the provisions against data abuse more than the Federal and any other state governments.

A second amendment to the Act Governing Protection Against Data Abuse now before the Baden-Württemberg state assembly aims to exempt science and research from the provisions of the Act.

This would strip the citizen of basic privacy rights and would release the medical and legal professions from their secrecy obligation.

She calls on the state government to review its plans and desist from giving science and research access to privileged information.

The commissioner also calls on the government to rescind last year's decision to curtail control possibilities for data stored by the police, thus once more providing safeguards against data abuse that are worthy of this name.

As things stand now, protection against invasion of privacy is in great jeopardy in Baden-Württemberg, the report says.

Though other states also have their problems on this score, Baden-Württemberg takes some beating.

The commissioner accuses state politicians of putting administrative interests before the citizen's right to privacy and of retroactively legalising the passing on of privileged data to research institutions.

Commissioner Leuze, appointed three years ago by Prime Minister Späth, is particularly worried about the watering down of the secrecy code in the medical and legal professions.

The first amendment of the Act in June 1982 has greatly facilitated the exchange of data between government authorities and the police, to the detriment of the citizen's privacy rights.

The commissioner says in her report that she has been barred from access to much of the data stored by the police because this information has been labelled for internal use only.

This made it impossible for her to establish whether the police were responsible for the fact that an illustrated magazine was able to publish the names and photographs of drug addicts.

She was also unable to say whether a young man who was dismissed from his job on the grounds that he was a suspected Communist also owes this to the illegal passing on of police information.

She says this type of curtailment of control possibilities, which is non-existent in other states, could hardly be in the best interests of the police.

The commissioner also criticises the State Office for the Protection of the Constitution for its unique practice of keeping a record of citizens making use of their right of access to their own data if they do so more than twice.

The state Interior Ministry argues that this is necessary to prevent people gathering information on the Office's methods of data collection.

The commissioner, on the [other] hand, maintains that this practic[e would] of necessity deter citizens from [asking] for the disclosure of their data.

She also criticises banks for [the] long-established practice of offe[ring fi]nancial incentives to schools to p[rovide] them with the addresses of the[ir stu]dents as potential customers.

She charges some banks with p[aying] students to pass on the addres[ses of] their class-mates.

Though conceding that it is no[t ille]gal for banks to make donatio[ns to] schools contingent on their meeti[ng cer]tain conditions, she neverthele[ss main]tains that this manner of buying a[ddres]ses for gain puts inadmissible p[ressure] on parents and students.

The report also point to the d[angers] inherent in electronic data proc[essing], the problems of videotexts and tho[se re]lating to statistics kept by regist[ry offi]ces and the questions asked in que[stion]naires for civil service applicants.

The commissioner emphatical[ly re]jects the contention tht she is mor[e hos]tile towards science than her pred[eces]sor.

She attributes many of the pro[blems to the fact] that both the administration and th[e ci]tizen have to cope with to the ad[minis]tration's own protective mea[sures] against data abuse, measures she c[ontends] are handled wrongly.

These problems, the report [says,] could be solved if the administ[ration] were better informed about the p[roper] application of the provisions ag[ainst] data abuse.

The enactment of a new archive[s law], the lack of which has been hamp[ering] research, could also help to over[come] problems.

Says Commissioner Leuze: "The [...] of the dead are now frequently b[etter] protected than those of the living."

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Z[eitung] für Deutschland, 11 Januar[y 1983])

PROFILE

Herbert Wehner, the SPD's grand old man, steps down

[Vet]eran Social Democrat Herbert Weh[ner], 76, is to call it a day. He will not be [se]eking re-election to the Bonn Bun[des]tag in March. His retirement marks [th]e end of an era, both in post-war So[ci]al Democracy and in Parliament.

Herbert Wehner, Willy Brandt once said, was not the sort of man you [vo]ted out of office. Herr Brandt had [e]very reason to know that the SPD's [gr]and old man was not squeamish in [w]ielding power.

Herr Wehner in his exercise of power [w]as no respecter of political monu[m]ents. While he respected historic [gr]eatness, without bending his knee to [it, h]e used every opportunity of putting [it t]o use for his own purpose.

Once it had served its purpose from [his] point of view he determinedly cast it [as]ide.

It was he who persuaded the reluc[ta]nt Berlin mayor, Willy Brandt, to join [th]e 1966-69 Grand Coalition of Chris[tia]n and Social Democrats in Bonn as [Fo]reign Minister.

It was he, Herbert Wehner, who unre[m]ittingly set about ousting Herr Brandt [as] Chancellor in 1974 and in having [hi]m replaced by Helmut Schmidt.

Brandt is said since this period to [ha]ve sworn he would survive both Weh[ne]r and Schmidt politically. Now Weh[ne]r has stepped down and will not be [st]anding for re-election to the Bundes[ta]g in March, Brandt has achieved his [am]bition (always assuming it was not [...] ascribed to him).

Herbert Wehner has been a member [of] the Bundestag since it came into [be]ing in 1949. He has been a leading fi[gu]re in post-war German politics, and [wit]hout him the country would not have [be]en the same.

Throughout his parliamentary life he [ha]s cut a caustic figure and tended to [po]larise opinion either for or against [him]self.

Yet it was he who in a major 1960 [spe]ech to the Bundestag proclaimed the [re]conciliation of Social Democrats with [th]e state set up by Konrad Adenauer.

[It] was he of all people, an ex-Com[mu]nist whose past was called to mind [wh]enever it suited his political oppo[nen]ts to do so.

Wehner himself once framed his bit[ter] realisation as follows:

"I have made two mistakes in my life, [two] political mistakes, that is, and dis[reg]arding the many others.

"The first was in becoming a Com[mu]nist and the second, once I was no [lon]ger either able or willing to remain a [Co]mmunist, in assuming you could still [pla]y a political part in the community.

"You can't. You have to make [am]ends for the rest of your life."

Yet he even went on to become a Ca[bin]et Minister. He held the all-German [aff]airs portfolio in the Grand Coalition [gov]ernment led by Chancellor Kiesin[ger].

The pennant of office will have inte[rest]ed him least. He could have exerted [infl]uence elsewhere. The wellspring [tha]t motivated him will have been his [des]ire to sue for peace with the new [Ger]man state by swearing the Ministe[rial] oath of allegiance to the constitu[tio]n.

He engineered this coalition with the [Ch]ristian Democrats for tactical reasons. His aim was to show the public that the Social Democrats were capable of governing the country.

His tactics were vindicated three years later when the Social Democrats under Willy Brandt were able to form a coalition of their own with Walter Scheel's Free Democrats as junior partners.

Herbert Wehner was not in favour of this change at the time. He felt the Social Democrats needed more time to gain maturity in joint harness with the Christian Democrats.

At a more personal level he may arguably not have trusted the peace he had made with the state and the state with him.

But Willy Brandt took the opportunity and Herbert Wehner submitted. The years that followed, 1969 to 1972, were to be his best as SPD leader in the Bundestag.

It was a period when he was instrumental in ensuring that a government with a wafer-thin majority passed major items of *Ostpolitik* legislation.

Chancellor Brandt was returned to power with a triumphant majority in 1972, but it was not long before he began to lose control.

Herbert Wehner's hour again came; he was largely responsible for ensuring that Helmut Schmidt took over as Chancellor. It was one of Wehner's last major policy decisions.

But he remained a linchpin of the Social and Free Democratic coalition. Due in part to longstanding close personal ties with the FDP's Wolfgang Mischnick he managed to ensure that the SPD and the FDP steered clear of many a clash until 1980.

From the mid-1970s he was increasingly troubled by age, sickness and increasing impatience. There were growing complaints from the SPD parliamentary party about Herr Wehner's "reign of terror."

His authoritarian leadership, aimed at nipping all opposition in the bud, upset many a talented youngster who had initially felt nothing but admiration for the SPD floor leader.

Then there were an increasing number of instances of mismanagement, especially as he was very much on his own after the departure from the Bundestag under a cloud of his longstanding personal aide Karl Wienand. Since the end of the 1970s Herbert Wehner's days as the power behind the throne in the SPD have been felt to be numbered. Whenever elections to the parliamentary party leadership were due to be held he was rumoured not to be standing for re-election, although he persistently disproved them. Asked what plans he had for his future, he growled that he would stay in harness for as long as the party wanted him. The party took this to mean that he expected it to re-elect him for as long as he wanted.



Schmidt and Wehner: a note of farewell

(Photo: Sven Simon)

That was doubtless the ironic deeper meaning behind Willy Brandt's comment that Wehner was not the sort of man you voted out of office. No-one did.

He has now chosen to step down of his own free will, and late in life too at 76. His official reason for not seeking re-election to the Bundestag is ill-health, and there can be no doubt it is true.

Anyone who has seen him lately will have realised what energy his public appearances cost him.

He is renowned for sitting out every parliamentary debate from beginning to end; it is typical of the merciless discipline he insists on both from himself and from others.

He can claim to have accomplished what he set out to do, to have taken his party into power after long years in opposition. He kept it in power for over 13 years.

His era came to an end when the Social Democrats were ousted last autumn. Even if the SPD were returned to power in March Wehner would not be the right man to maintain party-political support for a Chancellor Vogel.

He would particularly ill-suited for this role if Hans-Jochen Vogel had to rely on the Greens, or environmentalists, in the Bundestag.

In deciding to call it a day he followed in Helmut Schmidt's footsteps, Herr Schmidt likewise having sensed that his days were over.

Both may be assumed not to have forfeited their desire for power; they will merely have bowed to social change and to changes in power politics.

The issues of the 1980s must be faced by a new generation of Social Democrats although Willy Brandt, the last of a trio of SPD leaders, is still in office to organise the transition.

Wehner's departure will be a sad loss to the Bundestag. He is one of a declining band of personalities whose lives and experience establish traditions every parliament needs.

Bundestag debates may now be less vitriolic. Smooth talk may now replace his forthright and cutting, but often very telling style.

But his passion and his temperament, which delighted many and floored others, were indispensable in debates that were later said to have been highlights of parliamentarianism.

Joachim Worthmann

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 13 January 1983)

CDU says what it stands for

Continued from page 3

nations that are hostile to us," the CDU says.

The platform also deals with *Deutschlandpolitik* at length, reasserting a policy aimed at continuity, freedom and unity.

The German problem must not be kept open theoretically only. Instead, it calls for active action on behalf of justice and unity.

The aim is to perpetuate German nationhood, to have a common German citizenship and to remove the border dividing the nation, but to do so by peaceful means.

The situation will not be normal until self-determination and general rights and freedoms apply to all Germans.

As a result, the CDU will continue to work towards peace in Europe, a peace in which the German people can regain their unity in freedom.

"Our fatherland remains the whole of Germany, and this makes the restoration of unity the foremost aim of our policy."

The CDU also avows that it will meet all commitments resulting from the intra-German treaties, expecting the GDR to do the same.

As to the European Community, the objective is still a political union, while the CDU asserts its loyalty to Nato, saying it will uphold the two-track decision.

Nato is described as a community of values, defending freedom, solidarity, justice and human rights, values that the Soviet Union violates wherever it has the power to do so.

This results in the obligation and the moral right to defend peace and basic liberties against this threat.

The CDU has adopted a policy of "friendship and partnership with the allies and correct and peaceful cooperation with the neighbours in the East."

But peaceful neighbourliness as called for by the CDU can never mean acceptance of the injustice tht lies in the denial of the right to national self-determination and individual freedom.

The platform asserts disarmament as the CDU's aim, describing the two-track Nato decision as a timetable for disarmament.

An election victory by the CDU would have a major impact on the success of the Geneva disarmament talks because only a stable government under CDU leadership would thwart the Soviet Union's intention to have its arms supremacy recognised as a *fait accompli*.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 January 1983)

■ ECONOMY

Inflation down, but so is so much else

Since human attitudes and responses are, fortunately, unpredictable, economic forecasting will always be a guessing game; and as the forecasts of the past few years have been wrong by and large, the latest crop for the new year has been particularly cautious.

A detached look at 1983 that takes into account the general mood of uncertainty suggests that the recession will continue and unemployment worsen.

GNP, adjusted for inflation, is likely to decline even more than last year when it was down 1.2 per cent. This year's drop is likely to be 1.5 per cent, largely due to a 2.8 per cent drop in industrial output.

With GNP having already dropped slightly in 1981 (0.2 per cent), Germany in thus entering its third recession year in a row. This has increased the danger that the downturn could develop into an out-and-out crisis.

Like a year ago, when the SPD-FDP coalition anticipated that the second half of the year would show improvement, a pretty unwarranted hope, today's officialdom in Bonn again forecasts an improvement in the second half of 1983.

At that time, the hopes were pinned primarily on exports. But the present centre-right government does not even have that hope to fall back on; exports have been falling markedly since last spring.

The recession that has befallen the most important of industrial customer countries and the insolvencies of some East Bloc and developing nations have forced them to cut back on their capital goods orders.

This has hit the most important sector of Germany's export industry whose foreign sales declined by 27 per cent in November.

Growth in domestic business (28 per cent) was not enough to make up for this, especially since it was largely accounted for by one mammoth order. All in all, orders have dropped six per cent.

Though business in the construction industry has picked up a bit due to lower interest rates and other impulses promoting housing construction and there is a likelihood of further improvement in this important sector, there is little inclination to invest.

Investments generally are being retarded by the 6 March national election; but the most important factors here are unsatisfactory sales, high costs, and insolvencies; 15,500 firms went out of business in 1982, 4,000 more than in the previous year.

To make matters worse, the business community is sitting on ample stocks and manufacturing industry is working at only 75 per cent of capacity.

Investment subsidies are not enough to offset these negative factors, and companies like BMW, which is building new production facilities in Berlin and in Regensburg, are the exception rather than the rule.

BMW and Daimler-Benz have shown that success lies in the product, even in a conventional market.

But the imaginativeness of auto makers has been foisted on them from outside through the price policies of the Opec nations.

Yet German auto makers have responded to the changed conditions while their American opposite numbers have not.

The lesson to be drawn from this is that there is a niche even in saturated markets, but only for those who act.

Idle production capacities will not prompt anybody to put money into expansion, and only expansion creates jobs. Investments that are made go into rationalisation, which is a job-killer.

This plus the likelihood of a continued recession is anything but promising for the job market.

Every percentage point by which GNP drops does away with more than 100,000 jobs. As a result, we can expect 2.5 million jobless this year, meaning an unemployment rate of 12 per cent (against 9.1 per cent last December).

The rise in unemployment will primarily be due to demographic reasons because more young people are joining the work force and more and more foreigners and women are seeking employment.

The number of available jobs has not increased since 1978 when it was 22.3 million.

Demand is unlikely to provide any new impulses. In fact, consumption is likely to go down by 1.75 per cent (adjusted for inflation).

But this will be due to inadequacies on the supply side rather than lack of buying power.

The thinning-out process among Germany's 400,000 retailers is likely to continue at a steeper rate.

Even the four major department store chains have been hit by declining sales, although Christmas business was about the same as the year before.

The winter sales were unlikely to provide much of a boost because prices were slashed immediately after Christmas.

Even the optimists among the forecasters now expect private consumption to go down by one per cent this year, largely due to moderate wage deals likely to result in pay increases of only three to four per cent and the added strain of the VAT increase as of 1 July 1983.

Reticence on the part of consumers (to some extent due to the 3.5 per cent drop in overall social benefits and the still high savings quota of 14 per cent) will keep a rein on prices.

Price rises will also be dampened by reduced money circulation, cheaper imports due to an appreciating deutschemark and falling commodity prices, especially for oil.

All this will reduce Germany's inflation rate to a reasonable 3.5 to four per cent in 1983.

This low inflation rate will provide the export business with some relief for the setbacks it has suffered as a result of the declining dollar exchange rate.

Inflation rates abroad are considerably steeper than here and this also applies to the other members of the European Monetary System (EMS) with its fairly rigid exchange rates.

All this is bound to lead to a further devaluation of the French franc and the Italian lira. France's President Mitterrand is likely to press for a revaluation of the deutschemark at the next realignment of EMS currencies.

The declining inflation rate coupled with a hardening deutschemark provides the Bundesbank with additional scope for interest rate reductions.

The 7.5 per cent Federal bonds issued at the beginning of the year are bound to be replaced soon by a seven per cent issue.

Fixed deposit money now barely earns five per cent and conditions for investors continue to deteriorate. By the same token, borrowers can now get money more cheaply.

Yet there has been no upsurge of borrowing, disproving the contention that high interest rates retarded growth.

Moderate inflation rates and slow money circulation are making it ... for the Bundesbank to incre... money supply. Though on ta... money supply has neverthele... ahead of the development of the ...

The target set to cover the ... from the last quarter of 1982 to ... quarter of 1983 provides for a ... seven per cent growth in money s...

But even this is based on the optimistic assumption of a 1.5 ... per cent increase of production ... means that industrial output wi... tainly not founder on the skimp... the money supply.

Similar conditions apply to other industrial countries that w... in realising that inflation does ... cessarily produce growth.

The French government was ... forced to review its expansive ... that had stimulated consumption ... than investments.

Despite its supply-side ec... policy, Britain has failed to bring ... growth. It has, however, mana... bring inflation down to six pe... having lived with 12.5 per cen... 1970 to 1979.

Growth rates during this high ... tion period were still only about ... cent.

In the USA, where inflation h... been brought under control ... huge budgetary deficits, the ... forces on GNP have once more ... the upper hand after a slight gr... the summer of 1982.

Even Japan is now showing ... weakness because there is no sc... added exports.

The worldwide slump entails the ... ger of everybody sweeping hi... mess of difficulties to the do... others.

Protectionism, which had been ... dered licked by the Gatt agree... has rearing its ugly head, even ... the European Community.

It is reminiscent of the 1930s, ... should have served us a grim war...

Franz Th...

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 15 Janu...)

Jubilee at the Monopolies Commission

Looking back on the Federal Monopolies Commission's 25 years its president, Professor Wolfgang Kartte, says corporate executives have had second thoughts on mammoth mergers.

Even in today's economic crisis there appears to be little interest in cartels as a way out, he said.

The economic woes of the day are no longer due to cartel formations and their defensive measures against competition; and even the steel industry still has to compete fiercely.

"There is no longer such a thing as a market without competition because markets have expanded to the point where they are global.

"The threat that now looms is protectionism and nationalism; dangers the commission could not anticipate at its inception," said Professor Kartte.

He stressed that neither cartels nor mergers nor indeed subsidies can safeguard jobs in the long run. Whether or not the danger of national subsidies for ailing industries will grow will depend on the duration of the present recession.

Any kind of investment steering, he said, is harmful and a danger to free competition. This also applies to state-subsidised research and even more so to interference in free market forces through import quotas.

He stressed the commission's concern over developments prompted by Brussels and its Eurocrats.

He censured France's administrative obstacles as in the case of video recorder and similar imports from Asia that have to go through customs in a small town in the centre of France.

One of the most important cases dealt with by his authority so far is the application of Metro to acquire a 25 per cent stake in the German department store chain Kaufhof.

The final application has not yet been filed, so the commission still has a fair bit of time before the deadline for a decision, he said.

Professor Kartte welcomed the fact that Metro put its cards on the table rather than hiding the fact that its Kaufhof participation was through a holding company with all the tax advantages this entails.

That is not enough for Metro, which wants to take an active part in the German chain's management.

He said that his authority had to consider the ultimate aims of Metro and that that could mean a bid for a 49.9 per cent stake in Kaufhof.

What is at stake here is not onl... ket shares. It also involves Metr... ternational planning and activities...

Assessing all this and especi... culating market shares is a diffic... siness but neither the commissi... Metro is under pressure of time he said.

Among the most important and ... ly evidenced cases is the price fix... the construction industry. There ... to be no major construction comp... this country that is not involved in ... deals.

He said he expects heavy fines ... imposed in the next few months, ...

The commission had hoped th... penalties it imposed in 1976 ... teach the construction industry ... son; but this was evidently not the ...

Professor Kartte stressed tha... price fixing did not happen during ... cession but in the boom years.

He conceded that the constructio... dustry is faced with exceptional ... lems and that what it needs is sust... demand that could come from ... public sector in such areas as road ... similar construction. There is, how... little in the offing here, he said.

The erratic fluctuations in p... works put up for tender were an ... invitation to price fixing, he conced...

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Ze... für Deutschland, 17 Janua...)

INDUSTRY

Coming out: end of a monopoly



New-look matches: manufacturers hope they will add sparkle to a decontrolled market. (Photo: dpa)

...he German match monopoly, dating back to the Depression of the ...s and 1930s, expired on 15 January. ...he monopoly was set up when the ...man Reich, in dire financial straits, ...owed $125m from the Swedish ...ch Co. controlled by industrialist ... financier Ivar Kreuger.

One of Kreuger's conditions was that ... German match market be protected ... cheap imports by a match mono... corporation to set production quo... for the individual German match ...ufacturers. It then bought and mar...ed their total output.

...or close to 53 years, the entire ...ch business in Germany was thus ...ctly controlled.

The monopoly corporation told the ...ufacturers how the matchboxes had ...look and there were only two types ... matches available on the market. ...ey went under the labels *Haushalts...re* and *Welthölzer*.

This kind of monopoly was unprece...nted in German history. The five still ...sting match factories in this country ...re the monopoly corporation's stock...lders, though the corporation was not ...fact a corporation in the strict sense ...all.

The corporation was supervised by ...o Federal commissioners, and Bonn ...ocketed 75 per cent of the profits. Yet the corporation was neither a government authority nor a federally owned business.

And of course it was not a corporate entity but a "corporation in its own right" under an Act specially passed to meet the terms of the loan agreement.

Apart from Bonn (which in 1981 collected DM3m in profits) the beneficiaries included Ivar Kreuger's heirs, who were entitled to 25 per cent on the profits of top of interest payments.

The post-war match business reached its peak in the early 1970s when the monopoly corporation sold 215,000 crates of matches (each containing 10,000 boxes): a total of 100 billion matches.

Current match sales in this country stand at 33bn. Germany is in fact the nation with the lowest match consumption per capita (45 a month).

Manufacturers attribute the drop in demand to the fact that the monopoly did not, as originally intended, only stop cheap imports but also prevented a long overdue updating at home.

Competition was forbidden and hence there was also no marketing in the conventional sense.

The end of the monopoly is bound to bring about a change. The variety of matches on sale in Germany will broaden and naturally there will be competition once more.

In any event, DZG Konsumgüter GmbH (a subsidiary of the Swedish Match group), which controls 80 per cent of the market, is quite optimistic.

It banks on attractive and colourful boxes to replace the dreary old *Welthölzer* box.

The new matches will come in various lengths and qualities. There will be 5cm matches for the pipe smoker, 10cm versions for barbecuers and a 20cm model for people with open fireplaces.

DZG bank on the fact that there are some five million coal stoves in Germany, three million fireplaces and ten million people who enjoy their occasional barbecue.

The manufacturers now intend to offer a match for every occasion. They hope that this will enable them to boost sales from the present DM60m to DM120m a year.

But it remains to be seen whether these hopes will materialise for both the manufacturers and their 450 employees.

Having been shielded by the monopoly for so long, they have grown unaccustomed to competition.

There are already six countries standing poised to attack the German market: the GDR, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Spain and Turkey.

There is now nothing whatsoever to stop supermarket chains, department stores and even individual tobacconists from importing matches at will.

By the same token, German manufacturers hope to export some of their output, banking on their sophisticated production facilities.

The DZG, for instance, takes only four hours to turn a Canadian poplar into 80,000 boxes, complete with contents.

Competitors abroad have the advantage of cheap labour or state subsidised prices, as in the East Bloc. So the going is likely to prove tough for Germany's newly unshackled match industry.

Peter Roller

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 19 January 1983)

A Yugoslav shutdown in Bavaria

Crisis in the home electronics industry has spread from Western Europe to Yugoslavia. The shutdown of Körting in Grassau, Bavaria, will not only see that plant's 850 workers jobless.

It will also hit the several thousand workers at the Gorenje plant in Yugoslavia who will ultimately have to bear their company's losses.

The decision by the Gorenje owners of the Grassau plant to liquidate their German facility must have been anything but easy.

The works council of the "socialist multinational corporation" Gorenje did not announce the decision to liquidate the German plant until all rescue efforts had failed.

This means that the only German-based production plant of a Yugoslav company has to go out of business to forestall bankruptcy proceedings.

Even a socialist mammoth like the Gorenje company, the leading Yugoslav maker of household electronics and electrical appliances (with a payroll of 17,000 and annual sales of DM1.8bn), was unable to weather DM147m in losses in only four years.

The costly rescue attempts clearly overtaxed the resources of the Gorenje concern, which bought the prestigious Körting company for DM21.1m in 1978.

In any event, tht was the amount set for the guarantee of the competing bidder, the American GTE Corporation that opted out at the last moment.

Gorenje intended Körting to become the key with which to unlock Western markets. The risky deal was financed by

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Ljubljanska Banka and Beogradska Banka which in their turn were backed by the state government of Slovenia.

Though 1978, when the deal was finalised, was still a boom year, prospects for the home electronics industry had already dimmed under the impact of Japanese competition.

The Yugoslav newspapers, spearheaded by the *Slovensko Delo*, have unearthed these old forecasts in their bid to find a scapegoat for the disaster.

The Gorenje management stresses that by acquiring Körting it imported sophisticated know-how to Yugoslavia and that the production of colour TV sets and other high-grade electronics will continue in Yugoslavia. But this has not silenced those who ask about the cost.

Yugoslav competitors at home are worried that the modern Gorenje products could displace them from the market but they have been told that Gorenje will continue to work predominantly for export and that it has been able to corner the best of markets through Körting.

The more than 100 Yugoslav workers at the Grassau plant have been offered jobs at Gorenje — at Yugoslav rates of pay.

Gustav Chalupa

(Der Tagesspiegel, 16 January 1983)



■ PARTNERSHIP

Twentieth anniversary of Franco-German pact

The Franco-German friendship treaty was signed in Paris 20 years ago. Gerhard Schröder, who was Foreign Minister at the time and signed for Bonn, here recalls the situation and reviews the treaty's progress.

The 22 January 1963 treaty between Germany and France was one of the most hotly debated documents in post-war German politics.

None of the many items of legislation passed by the Bundestag in the field of foreign affairs can compare with it in having the following said about it by the Speaker:

"Passed by a very substantial majority against one dissenting vote on the right, several on the left and a number of abstentions."

Let us try and account for this state of affairs.

Since 1945, or certainly 1949, Germany has aimed at European integration and relied for its security on the United States.

It was motivated by the objective of an integrated United Europe envisaged as growing progressively more united.

The European Treaties were initially signed by six countries: France, Germany, Italy and Benelux.

The bid to set up an integrated European Defence Community, one in which Germany invested much hard work and by which it set great store, proved a failure.

It was rejected by the French National Assembly in 1954. We in Bonn, first and foremost Chancellor Adenauer, saw this failure as a most serious setback in the work of building a United Europe.

We, especially Theo Blank and his staff, had worked hard on what was a bold project, feeling that if a defence community was possible it might well be followed by a political union.

Our expectations probably went beyond political views and feelings in Europe at the time, but it was not long before Germany became a member of Nato.

That made it a member of the major pact which has guaranteed its security over all these years and will, I feel, continue to do so.

Twenty years after the signing of the Franco-German treaty people are wondering how important it has been.

Has it furthered the cause of European integration? What did it set out to do? What has it been able to accomplish? What good does it do now? What course will it take in future?

The first point, I feel, must be to recall the men mainly concerned, and on the German side it was Adenauer.

For him the treaty set a seal to his work for Franco-German reconciliation and friendship, especially as he knew he was due to step down as Bonn Chancellor later that year.

He had reluctantly agreed in this, his fourth term as Chancellor, to take his bow in mid-term and hand over to Ludwig Erhard.

The pact with France was for Adenauer the crowning achievement of a lifetime in politics, an achievement he would be able to hand over to his successor.

He doubtless felt he would be able to help ensure it was kept running smoothly even after he had resigned as Chancellor. He spared no effort to ensure that it was.

It is hardly for me to speculate on the ideas that motivated General de Gaulle. A few months earlier he had made a well-prepared tour of Germany on which he had encountered much sympathy and admiration.

He himself had not been sparing with his compliments to the Germans on a tour marked by successful speeches and visits to Bonn, Düsseldorf, Duisburg, Hamburg and Ludwigsburg.

De Gaulle may be assumed to have been convinced the treaty would both strengthen his position in France and endorse his claim to be viewed internationally as the legitimate leader of Europe.

This will have been all the more important after his failure to set up a Western triumvirate of America, Britain and France.

His ambitions went much further than those of his German counterpart. Adenauer was Chancellor of a vanquished country, a country aware of its opportunities and its serious problems alike.

I had the honour of accompanying General de Gaulle to a military parade at Münsingen. As the somewhat antiquated tanks rolled past he said:

"That will be our first task, joining forces to build a new tank."

I could hardly tell him that to the best of my knowledge German experts had said the development of a new German tank had reached such an advanced stage that there could no longer be any question of joining forces.

To this day the relevant section of the treaty reads:

"In the arms sector the two governments will endeavour to organise joint efforts from the stage of drafting suitable armaments projects and preparing financial planning."

There has been no lack of attempts to do so, but 20 years later I am still constantly reminded of the tank story.

We naturally do cooperate a great deal, and successfully, in the arms sector, but in exporting the outcome we have restricted ourselves to Nato, whereas France is not encumbered by such restrictions.

The treaty was most controversial both in Germany and abroad, but setting the seal to Franco-German reconciliation and friendship was not at issue; neither was controversial in the least.

The point at issued was, in a nutshell, whether the treaty could be reconciled with other European agreements. Would it be to the advantage or to the detriment of European developments?

In its debate on the treaty the Bundesrat, or upper house of the Bonn parliament, decided on a resolution outlining its views on how the treaty was to be read and implemented.

The Bundestag and its committees felt a preamble was better. A preamble could ensure that the previous German policy, that European decisions and that Atlantic policy, which was mainly security policy, did not get out of control.

It is wrong to assume there was any intention of a change of direction in German foreign policy. the preamble listed targets that included the following:

- Implementation of the right of self-determination for the German people and restoration of German unity.
- Joint defence within the framework of the North Atlantic alliance and integration of the armed forces of member-countries.
- European integration along lines laid down by the establishment of the European Communities but including Britain and other would-be new members and with due regard for further consolidation of the communities.

These had been the yardsticks of German foreign policy up till then and they were to remain so.

The insertion of a preamble was evidently in keeping with what Konrad Adenauer had in mind.

He immediately and as a matter of course accepted the Act as prefaced by the preamble going into detail on the government draft.

There was no such move by the French government, and General de Gaulle was most critical of the preamble, although I cannot recall when he first voiced this criticism.

Whenever it was, it did not prevent him from sharing in setting up the institutions provided for in the treaty.

Even so, he saw the preamble as an amendment of the entire meaning of the treaty, depriving it of both spirit and substance.

De Gaulle knew that we in Germany were keenly interested in the establishment of am MLF, or miltilateral fleet equipped with nuclear weapons of which units of the Bundesmarine were to form a part.

He initially favoured the idea, which Adenauer himself had previously outlined to the Americans, but later changed his mind and rejected it at a 23 July 1964 press conference.

On 19/20 January 1965 he warned Chancellor Erhard against th proposal in Rambouillet.

Adenauer and de Gaulle

(Photos: Bundes

Richard Nixon notes in his m that in all frankness he (de Gaul ed about his decision to go ahe rapprochement between the Fre the Germans and to coopera Adenauer despite the fears h about the Germans.

De Gaulle admitted that the G had enormous vitality, energy a siderable ability. They even ha tain bonhomie.

But at the bottom of their hea had a motive force and a powe bition that had to be kept under if France and other countries w to undergo further bitter experien

That was why the French wer resolved to ensure that the G never gained access to nuclear w of their own.

In retrospect one cannot h struck by the short time that wa the men mainly responsible f Franco-German friendship pact.

Adenauer stepped down in mi De Gaulle resigned on 28 April dying on 9 November 1970. Ad had died in April 1967.

Twenty years after the signing treaty many institutions envisage been set up. There is the Franc man youth exchange scheme. T countries' armed forces have m common.

What shape will the future ta my view the obligation to hold r consultations is the cornerstone treaty, and it has shown that it is stay.

Gerhard Sch

(Die Welt, 20 Janu

Signing the treaty at the Elysée Palace in Paris on 22 January 1963. Seated, from the left: Bonn Foreign Minister Gerhard Schröder and Chancellor Adenauer, General de Gaulle, Premier Pompidou and French Foreign Minister Couve de Murville.

RESEARCH

Antarctic eco-system endangered as scientists move in

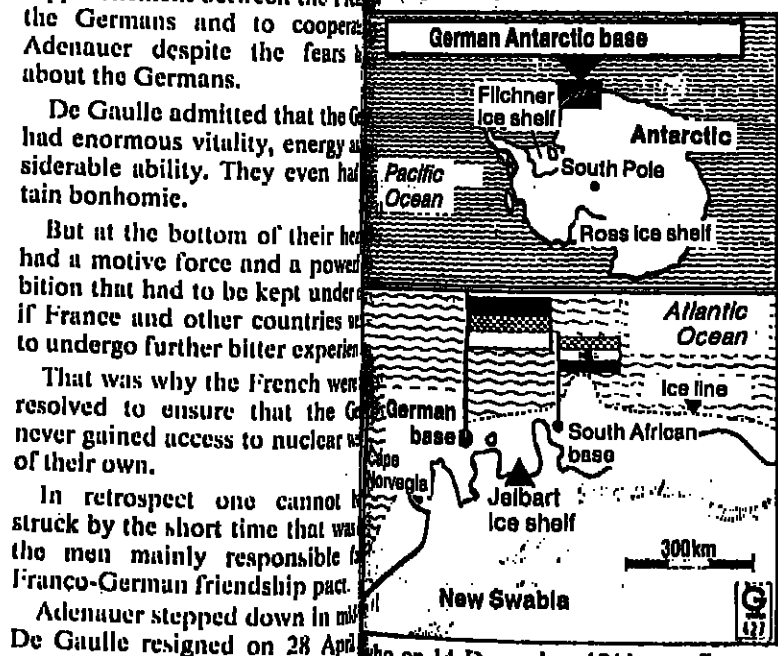
From Ushuaia, Argentina, and Punta Arenas, Chile, ships set sail, on 20 uary, on a de luxe tourist cruise of Antarctic.

The two ships were described in the vel brochures as something special, lt not to carry as many passengers as sible from one port to another but to ble a small group of passengers to ke holiday dreams of their own come e.

The *World Discoverer*, owned by a mburg company, de Vries, and the *dblad Explorer*, owned by an Ame- an line, are specially equipped for yages of discovery to previously inac- ssible parts of the world.

On board the two floating xpedition-cum-hotel ships about 250 ell-heeled holidaymakers, mostly Americans but also Germans, have ooked a month's tour of the Antarctic.

They are following in the footsteps of Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen,



who on 14 December 1911 was first to ach the South Pole in a dramatic race ainst time with Britain's Captain cott.

The exclusive tourists will see for emselves not only impressive pack ice rmations and icebergs but also other tural wonders of the world.

There are the Antarctic seals, which yet are serenely unconcerned when proached by humans, sea leopards, a elephants and whales.

There are shoals of krill, the tiny Anrctic shrimp that used to be the staple et of the whale. They are hundreds of uare kilometres in extent and stain e sea water.

There are albatrosses and other ocean rds, Adelie and king penguins that ut or slide on their bellies across the e.

They have yet to learn to be afraid of n and often live in colonies of up to 0,000 "The sight, smell and sound of ch a colony are unforgettable," a rearch scientist has written.

Two hundred million years ago this s Gondwanaland, a primeval contint consisting of what are now Austra-, New Zealand, India and South nerica as well as the Antarctic.

Tourists are not particularly welme. At the height of summer scientific tivity is brisk in the Antarctic, with lar research vessels and supply ships all nations breaking their way through e ice.

They relay manpower and supplies to Antarctic research stations manned by a variety of countries, including hundreds of scientists in a wide range of disciplines.

Tourists, even though they may be keen nature-lovers, are more of a nuisance because, for instance, even by coming anywhere near a scientific recording device they can produce data that seriously distort the micro-climate, scientists say.

"Despite marked ecological consideration shown by most scientific and tourist expeditions," says Gotthilf Hempel, "this growing activity endangers the Antarctic community."

Professor Hempel is head of the Alfred Wegener Polar Research Institute in Bremerhaven, Federal Republic of Germany.

An introductory brochure for visitors has been published, with a code of behaviour. They are requested not to walk on moss- and lichen-covered banks and slopes of scree.

Footsteps in the Antarctic can leave their mark for up to a decade.

In the few places where at times there is no snow or ice visitors are asked not to take samples of stone, some semiprecious. They are irreplaceable.

Breeding colonies should only be viewed from a distance. Seals at sleep must on no account be disturbed and babies should never be touched. There are already signs of seal cows with puppies being troubled by stress.

Scientists made no exception when it comes to abiding by the Antarctic code of conduct.

It was drawn up not long after International Geophysical Year, when in 1957-58 twelve countries sent expeditions to the South Pole.

Thousands of scientists made their way through the ice on board ships and aircraft and by tracked vehicle. Four dozen research bases were set up.

The countries concerned drew up a kind of constitution for international Antarctic research, the Antarctic Treaty. Its aim is to keep the territory unspoilt and to ensure it is used for peaceful purposes only. It prohibited military activities of all kinds and froze all territorial claims for at least 30 years. Yet the construction and operation of major research facilities have already led to serious local effects on the sparse flora and fauna, says Dr W. N. Bonner of the British Antarctic Survey.

The first team to man the German Antarctic base: Eckard Müller-Heiden, doctor; Mathias Idl, cook; Friedrich Oseltner, meteorologist; Jürgen Jannek, mechanic; and Paul-Herbert Hag, radio officer.

They are a definite threat to nature and to the aesthetic value of the Antarctic environment.

Snow that falls in the Antarctic and surrounding oceans already contains slight traces of man-made chemicals that are eventually concentrated in the bodies of marine organisms, such as penguins and seals.

"We all ought to feel we are guests in the Antarctic," says Professor Hempel, "regardless whether we are there for business or for pleasure."

Yet even the most painstaking observation of the Antarctic code cannot entirely rule out disturbance or impairment of antarctic flora and fauna that until a few years ago were largely uninfluenced by mankind.

Many countries are too heavily committed in terms of cash and manpower, and the Antarctic seems sure to be of similar scientific importance to outer space.

The Federal Republic of Germany, in keeping with Bonn Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber's dictum, is among the pioneers.

"As a traditional scientific nation," he says, "we are called on to play a part in research into a continent that is still largely unexplored."

German polar research, including the North Pole, is a happy hunting ground for geologists, geophysicists, glaciologists, geographers and specialists in geodesy.

Between now and 1985 they have submitted plans for at least twice as many projects as are logistically feasible in the ice, using ships, aircraft, helicopters and research bases.

Oceanographers, meteorologists and biologists are no less interested. By the end of this year the Bonn government's Antarctic research programme will have invested more than DM280m in 70 projects.

Some have already begun, others have been completed, such as the *Polarstern*, a 10,900-grt research vessel newly built at a cost of roughly DM200m.

Then there is the construction of the first German winter base camp in the Antarctic.

After substantial initial difficulties, in snow drifts and storms of up to Force 12 on the Beaufort scale, over 1,000 tons of equipment was landed in the 1980-81 antarctic summer to build a base on the Ekström ice shelf on the southern edge of Atka Bay.

The base was named after Georg von Neumayer, a German geographer and former head of the Hamburg marine observatory, and was taken into service early in March 1981.

It consists of two sections of corrugated sheet metal, each 50 metres long and 7.5 metres in diameter. These shelters house insulated living containers.

The containers are fully equipped with devices ranging from a power generator to drinking water and sewage facilities.

They are designed to safely house up

Continued on page 10



Home on the ice: Insulated living and working containers being moved into one of the two corrugated metal tubes 50 metres long that house the Georg von Neumayer Antarctic base camp. (Photos: Süddeutscher Verlag)

■ ENVIRONMENT

Dentists help to recycle waste mercury

Frankfurter
Neue Presse

Every dentist in Hesse pours down the drain or into the dustbin an average 2.4kg of amalgam filling waste per year. There are 2,000 dental practices in the state, so the annual total is about 4.8 tonnes.

Roughly half, or about 2.4 tonnes, is mercury that pollutes rivers and streams and helps to ensure that sewage sludge cannot be recycled and has to be specially disposed of.

A two-year pilot project launched by the Hesse Environmental Affairs Ministry in March 1982 is nearing the halfway mark and an interim survey has been published.

It has been drawn up by the firm in Runkel-Dehrn, near Limburg, that was entrusted by the Ministry with installing mercury filtration equipment in 100 dental practices.

The project was backed by the dental profession.

Mercury is contained mainly in amalgam, used in fillings, and the waste is either poured down the drain or, in the case of fillings in teeth extracted, thrown into the dustbin.

But most dentists were reluctant to cooperate. Of 500 in Limburg, Darmstadt, Wiesbaden and Kassel only 29 agreed to take part in the project.

Many of them withdrew from the scheme on learning that the state government was not subsidising it. Equipment rental and maintenance costs DM60 a month, with mercury recovered being offset against the rental.

Mercury has been identified at almost all sewage farms in Hesse, but noone has yet been able to identify its source. Dentists clearly account for much of it.

Two tonnes a year would not be fed into the sewage system if only Hesse dentists were to collect amalgam waste instead of junking it.

A year ago the Ministry suggesed that dentists might be to blame for roughly half the mercury fed to the state's sewage system.

The dental council doubted this was so but said the joint pilot project was all the more important as a means of checking the true level of pollution.

The Limburg company now says interim findings are sufficient to make anyone with a sense of responsibility conclude that the point has been made and that widespread measures are urgently needed.

It refers to a statement by the vicechairman of the council, Professor Pantke of Giessen University, at the outset of the project.

"If the project succeeds in filtering waste amalgam," he said, "we will definitely encourage members of the profession to take part in the campaign on a large scale.

"When something can be done for the health of the general public doctors and dentists must be at the forefront."

Dieter Fluck

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 January 1983)

Baby seal fur ban

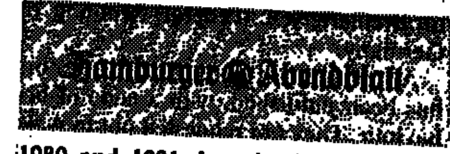
Furriers in the Federal Republic of Germany are no longer to process or sell baby seal fur: neither whitecoats nor bluebacks.

Regulations are to be drawn up to supervise the trade and ensure such protection it can give to the endangered species culled mainly off the Canadian coast.

The industry is reported by the Bonn Economic Affairs Ministry to be planning to call on member-firms no longer to import and process baby seal fur.

By the end of February it will report to the Ministry on ways and means of ensuring voluntary restraint. Societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals are to be consulted.

According to the industry 80,000 and 97,000 baby seal hides were imported in



1980 and 1981, but they were mainly species that are not endangered.

For years the trade has preferred not to process whitecoat and blueback fur. Their hides are said not to be suitable for coats or larger items of clothing in any case.

The industry says only two firms in the Federal Republic still process whitecoat and blueback hides to order for foreign customers.

Both are now reportedly prepared to stop doing so altogether.

dpa

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 15 January 1983)

North Sea oil toll

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

Crude oil pollution is ass alarming proportions in the Sea, with thousands of sea-birds been hit by an extensive oil slick past few days.

Ornithologists and conserva have collected truckloads of oil ducks, gulls and other sea-birds island of Sylt and Heligoland coast of North Frisia and Southe land.

A rocky area of Heligoland Germany's only breeding grou birds that fly the high seas is thre by pollution.

A number of beaches on the Sea holiday isle of Sylt are cover to the dunes in a grey-black film

North-westerly storms have the dike approaches along the Sea coast in pats of bitumen, sea is casting ashore lumps of b ranging in size from tennis b pumpkins.

Analysis of dead birds has many of the victims to have been ken by North Sea oil. Nearly cent of samples are definitely oil North Sea fields.

So there must be constant oil le the North Sea about which we nothing.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 18 Januar

Continued from page 9

to 40 scientists in summer and up to 10 in the Antarctic winter.

Specialists say the tubes can withstand high wind pressure and up to seven metres of snow. But due to their heat and the pressure of snow bearing down on them sink about 70cm deeper every year.

In the event of an emergency there is a survival raft to one side of the base. But there hasn't been one yet, and five men manned the base in its first winter in use.

One of the five, a 28-year-old mechanic, Jürgen Jannek, signed on for a second 300-day term. The other four said they would not voluntarily stay for another winter.

The radio officer, Paul Herbert Hag, felt you never got out of the place. The wind pressed the snow as hard as concrete. It found its way through every nook and cranny, and the weather was, for the most part, bad.

This year seven men are to spend the winter at the base camp. Next year there is to be a complement of 10.

About 1,450km, or 900 miles, south south-west of the base camp there are several containers on stilts on an ice floe in the Filchner-Ronne ice shelf.

The containers, including day rooms and dormitories, a kitchen, laboratories and a sanitation unit, are the German summer camp.

From these logistical bases, to which the *Polarstern* is bound on its maiden voyage, Antarctic research is carried out.

German polar research, Professor

Antarctic eco-system

Hempel says, has extended over the past century. Between 1901 and 1903 Erich von Drygalski headed a major Antarctic expedition on board the three-masted schooner *Gauss*. Between 1911 and 1913 Wilhelm Filchner sailed into the Weddell Sea on board the *Deutschland*. He and his crew were holed up in the ice for eight months.

In 1938-39 Captain Alfred Ritscher on board the *Schwabenland* discovered a mountainous terrain he named New Swabia.

But German research suffered from a lack of continuity in scientific, technical and financial support. There was neither a central polar research institute nor a permanent German research base.

German scientists concentrated more on shipboard expeditions than on landbased expeditions to the Antarctic.

Independent German Antarctic research was resumed in 1975 after a break of more than 30 years. Professor Hempel can now proudly claim that it has been amazingly quick to catch up with its international competitors.

"We now have a share in the planning," he says. Progress is due, to no small extent, to a smoothly-running lobby in Bonn.

The three mainstays of German polar research today are, he says, the universities, the major Federal research institutes and the Alfred Wegener Institute in Bremerhaven.

University work is backed by a Scientific Research Association programme worth about DM3m a year.

The Bremerhaven institute is funded by Bonn and Bremen, with 90 per cent coming from the Federal government. It has a staff of 60 and is temporarily housed in a shopping centre.

Its main role will be to coordinate national polar research and to provide logistical support as well as to conduct research of its own.

Logistics includes shipping men and equipment to the Antarctic bases, deploying aircraft and helicopters and looking after the base camps and the Bremerhaven-registered *Polarstern*.

The comprehensive research programme with the aid of which the Federal Republic hopes to play its part in shaping the future of the last undeveloped territory in the world has a wideranging brief.

It includes charting the sea-bed in the pack ice areas. Scientists know less about the sea-bed in this area than about the surface of the Moon.

Special techniques and scientific methods will be tried out that only hold forth promise of success in Antarctic weather conditions.

The there is the extensive sector of applied Antarctic research, particularly including research into the krill, the largest untapped reserve of edible protein in the world's seas.

Information is also being gathered on other living resources, such as whales, penguins and seals in an eco-system that has been stable for more th million years.

The Antarctic is up for explorati a museum of trace elements cen old and as a mechanism of the e climate.

There can no longer be the sli doubt that Antarctic ice strongly fluences the earth's climate.

The quest for oil, gas, uranium, ore and other mineral resources is wise part of the programme though exploiting them in this ice ed and remote terrain is difficult, say out of the question for the being.

"Drilling through a layer of ice to 3,000 metres thick is much more ficult than sinking a shaft on dry says Professor Hempel.

"The ice is in a continual state of and you cannot sink a straight sh bends as you drill it."

Yet scientists spare no efforts to dertake basic research on a large Professor Hempel, 53, a marine gist and krill research specialist, fl Cape Town on 18 January.

There he joined the *Polarstern* journey to the Antarctic.

He admits that human and scie curiosity play a part but will hear ing of it all being Ivory Tower fu games.

Criticism of this kind, he says, been levelled since the Ancient W Science has had to learn how to with it.

"Unless we know all about the we can do nothing with it, either or bad."

Gert Kistenmach

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 Januar

CINEMA

Wenders' Hammett looks at a legend



Frankfurter Allgemeine

Dashiell Hammett is said to have been a man you wanted to be accepted by the moment you made his acquaintance and were about to shake hands with him.

He was tall, had knife wounds in his s and a deep scar on his head. At mes, he cultivated a run-down elegance.

He suffered from TB and was an alcoholic, but by and large he was proud himself. In an obliging way he was proud; he certainly didn't like to have to ask for things.

He once said: "If more were at stake an jail, if it were life itself, I would give it for what I mean by democracy, and I'm not going to let policemen or judges tell me what I mean by democracy."

For his convictions, or maybe in keeping with his sense of justice, he spent time behind bars in the McCarthy era.

There can be no doubt that Hammett, detective fiction writer, was a character, an American hero who embodied once more the uncompromising obstinacy of the pioneers.

Hammett is also the title of a film by German director Wim Wenders that fared remarkably badly.

It did not illustrate Hammett's life story. It largely avoided the explicitly political.

It did not even deal in depth with his emotional life, which so fascinated his contemporaries, friends and the "incomplete" woman who shared his later years.

Yet Frederic Forrest, who plays the writer, took care to resemble him in appearance. He studied Hammett's habits painstaking detail.

He checked how Hammett, who died 1961, walked, talked, smoked and drank. To judge by photos he perfectly resembled his original.

But it amounts to no more than a vague resemblance to a character. Wenders does not lay claim to more. He refers to research on Hammett's life but stresses that he had no intention of making a film biography.

His film is in fact based on a readable but by no means brilliant crime fiction by Joe Gores entitled *Dashiell Hammett's Last Case.*

Hammett as a legend, so Wenders says, did not interest him. The film is in 1928 when he was 34 and unknown, neither a hero nor a myth, just someone who can make ends meet with what he earns from his stories.

So it is primarily a film about the relationship between fact and fiction, a film about a man who sought to sublimate aesthetically his personal experiences as a Pinkerton agent.

It is a film about a man who is forced back into reality by a private eye whom he owes a good turn.

Ryan, the eye, is looking for Crystal Ling, a Chinese girl sold by her parents for a few thousand dollars at the age of

She ended up in a San Francisco brothel, undoubtedly one of life's victims.

One day she escapes from Chinatown, seeks refuge with Hammett, then disappears again.

In the end everyone is on the lookout for Crystal Ling: the police, gangsters, industrialists and Hammett, the private eye reactivated.

Wenders shows us the manhunt with reasonable tension. He is more interested in the opportunity of recreating pictorial tableaus of a lost Los Angeles world in the studio than in telling the tale.

It is a world that never really existed and was always an artefact. *The Big Sleep* was one of the most famous Hollywood films of this kind.

But the eternal nature of celluloid is in contrast with the finite nature of life, and Wenders' film competes with the myth of a genre that was never exposed to oblivion.

In a way *Hammett* is the reconstruction of a historical model, a tribute to the tradition portrayed by Elisha Cook, who in John Huston's *Maltese Falcon* plays the hysterical weakling and born loser of a gunman.

Cook recurs in Hammett as a living quotation, so to speak. There can be no ignoring reminders of characters, episodes, pictures and a certain weakness for quotations.

Yet the film is more than a remake; it is the production of a dream, of Wim Wenders' visionary view of classic Hollywood cinema.

He originally intended to shoot the film in black and white, but Francis Ford Coppola, the producer, ruled out this idea for commercial reasons, and wisely so.

The specially devised colour patterns give the film a note that is very much its own and distinguishes today's pictures from those taken 30 years ago.

Wim Wenders proves his mastery of colour, of the studio atmosphere and of the camera, but at times we feel he is not engaged in the search for Crystal Ling but in a quest for exquisite pictures.

He prefers to point the camera at his characters from below, which tends to give them a demon-like look.

There is a wealth of decorative shadow, of unusual camera angles that at times verge on mannerism. The library has a glass roof. Houses have staircases that are all angles.

Many features of the film are typical of the present age. There can be no mistaking the predilection for quotations, the overwhelming presence of cineastic thought and doubtless the aestheticism.

The political aspect, the social criticism that makes up much of the myth of this genre of Hollywood films, remains no more than a mere claim or assertion.

Politics, it is said at one point, is teased out; it is the millionaires who run things.

But this comment sounds as much of an alibi as the inevitable conclusion that crime doesn't pay which film censors insisted on in the 1940s, merely fuelling the fire of gangster legends.

Viewed in this light *Hammett* is the expression of an age that is sold on the pleasing, on outward aspects.

"It is not because I despise women that all my heroes are men," Wenders once said. "I would sooner see this as a kind of respect for women. I can't tell their tales."

The dramatic climax of the film, the moment at which evil rears its ugly head and the seeming innocence of woman is unmasked as frighteningly calculated, is directed in anything but virtuoso fashion.

"He needed one hand for the money and another for the gun," we are told about the dead private eye Ryan at the end, "and he couldn't cope with either."

It's a fine ending as they go but Lydia Lei is not a Mary Astor or a Lauren Bacall, and Wim Wenders is no John Huston. The scene remains flat and lacking in tension. Wenders fails in his bid to portray a woman monster on the screen.

He spent four years in America working on *Hammett*. Screenplays were written and written off. Actors were hired and fired. The cameraman was swapped,

At times work was in mothballs, then it was all hectic action. Given this chaos the film is surprisingly uniform in style. It is a film about the birth of the private eye Sam Spade.

Michael Schwarze

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 14 January 1983)





Frederic Forrest as Dashiell Hammett in Wenders' film

(Photo: Neue Constantin Film)

Berlin film festival

Sydney Pollack's *Tootsie*, starring Dustin Hoffman, will open the 33rd Berlin Film Festival on 18 February. It is an actors' comedy hailed by US film critics as Film of the Year rather than *E.T.*

The German entry will be *Heller Wahn* (German title: Sheer Madness), directed by Margarete von Trotta and starrring Hanna Schygulla and Angela Winkler.

A second German entry will be *Utopia*, directed by Sohrab Shadid Saless, a Persian who lives in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The second US entry will be *Sophie's Choice*, directed by Alan Pakula and starring Meryl Streep and Germany's Katharina Thalbach.

Other entries will include Alain Tanner's *Dans la ville blanche*, from Switzerland, starring Bruno Ganz, *La Colmena* by Mario Camus of Spain, *Ascendancy* by Britain's Edward Bennett, *Himala* by Ishmael Bernal of the Philippines and *Kharij* by Mrinal Sen of India.

There will also be a Chinese entry at Berlin again. The jury will be chaired by French actress and director Jeanne Moreau.

This year's retrospective will be entitled Exile: Six Actors from Germany, and deal with Elisabeth Bergner, Curt Bois, Dolly Haas, Franz (Francis) Lederer, Hertha Thiele and Wolfgang Zilzer (Paul Andor).

The International Young Film Forum is to present, on the 50th anniversary of Hitler's power take-over on 30 January, several still unknown films made by German emigrés.

dpa

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 January 1983)

■ TELEVISION

Sesame Street, now 10, has gone German

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Pre-school TV all began in America, and the idea was fascinatingly simple. Educationalists noticed that children who spent a lot of time watching television stored and retained TV slogans in their minds.

So they wondered: "Why not put this facility to a good use? Why not sell pre-school children figures and the letters of the alphabet instead of cornflakes?

The idea was picked up and realised in 1969 in the form of the Sesame Street TV programme for children, produced by the Children's Television Workshop.

The aim of Sesame Street was to improve the educational prospects of underprivileged and neglected children, and initial successes seemed to prove the concept right.

Surveys made in 1971 showed that a regular dose of Sesame Street promoted the children's receptiveness and that it indeed taught them something.

But this positive view did not stand up to a subsequent review of the initial findings.

A Russel Sage Foundation study entitled Sesame Street Revisited showed that the learning progress made by the test group was not due to the programme but to intensive personal attention.

It turned out that it was not Sesame Street that promoted the children's learning but the in-depth chats they had with the field workers making the survey.

Underprivileged children who were not included in the project showed no sustained learning successes.

As one expert put it: "Even the Sesame Street generation of children had to start from scratch once they began their schooling."

Initial successes in America spread to the Federal Republic of Germany, where educationalists were fascinated by the idea of taking education to the remotest corner of the country via the TV screen.

The American idea was adopted for *Norddeutscher Rundfunk*, one of the major national broadcasting systems, by its *Sesamstrasse* project group in 1973.

The project group took over the American combination of Muppet-like creatures and everyday situations combined with a bit of show and information.

The aim was ambitious. The programme was supposed to have helped raise the independent and responsible dream child of educational planners.

So much for the aim. But there was a considerable controversy over how to achieve it, a controversy that has left its mark on the various development phases of the German version of Sesame Street.



Tiffy, Samson and Herr von Bödefeld from the German cast of Sesame St... (Pho...

The original American street scene, complete with the people who populated it, was dropped in the early stages because it was considered too exotic.

The little viewers were given an idea of their environment by a blend of animated cartoons and shots of real German street scenes, some borrowed from another, German children's programme.

The German producers contributed about 30 per cent of the programme, the rest being taken over from the American version.

Despite many changes, the original aim of providing information on as many situations a child is likely to encounter as possible along with a bit of simple instruction in the three Rs has remained to this day.

But the programme also reflects the changes in educational fads that have occurred during its ten years in existence here in Germany.

Starting from the mid-1970s, more emphasis was put on re-enacting possible social conflicts in a bid to teach children how to cope with them and on removing the stereotype understanding of the specific roles of the sexes, thus imparting emancipatory impulses.

Basic patterns of the series have remained, notwithstanding changes of emphasis. The sketches with Ernie and Bert, the games with figures and letters and the frequently hectic rhythm of the show with its minimum of eight separate sections in half an hour remain.

With its rapid sequence of scenes, gags and slogans, the programme's origins in advertising are clearly in evidence.

The theme song *Wer, wie, was, wieso, weshalb, warum; wer nicht fragt, bleibt dumm,* ("Who, how, what, why ... if you don't ask you'll stay stupid") is catchy, but performs no miracles.

One of the main conclusions arrived at by an extensive review made by the Hans Bredow Institute in 1975 was that the series barely improved the children's social attitudes though some children were made to perform better intellectually.

Children with fairly tolerant, loving mothers who talked a lot with them topped the performance score. But children growing up under such favourable conditions hardly need a TV programme that its makers regard as an opportunity to achieve equal opportunity.

What accounts for these relatively poor results, considering the time and money that goes into *Sesam*... Perhaps the best explanation is ... that children can learn at play ... while glued to the television.

Foreigners with children have ... ed time and again in interview... their children learned German ... playing with other children ... through *Sesamstrasse*.

The same applies to learning ... Though children might grasp one ... other letter they see on the scree... means little because it is too fr... tury.

For one thing, reading should ... taught too early anyway and, f... other, a child must come to unde... in other areas of life that curiosity ... drive to discover something new ... ed with perseverance lead to insig...

And this can only be experienc... those who are not shielded fro... real world by a TV screen.

The typical Sesame Street vie... weaned from the necessity to co... trate for any length of time.

Sesamstrasse has gradually shif... emphasis from teaching to entert... as evidenced by the programme ... ing the series' 10th anniversary ... funny scenes predominated.

The sentimental item with the ... *Wenn es regnet und du bist zu* ... (When it rains and you're at ho... which was more suited to teen... than to tots, was contrasted by so... ther clever and funny informatio... rain.

This was augmented by pictori... ries, a report on carrier pigeons ... game with Samson the Bear, a pe... nent member of the cast.

The unsystematic blend of widel... fering items in this anniversary ... was symptomatic for the series ... whole.

Other pre-school TV progra... have found a better approach and ... content themselves with providin... children with fleeting sensations ...

Die Sendung mit der Maus, a ... man children's TV series, is exem... for this genre, especially because ... ways makes a point of taking non... man listeners into account by givi... introduction in a number of foreig... guages.

Moreover, these programmes ... present chains of causality in an ... derstandable fashion, coupled ... clear pictures. This promotes the ... desire to play and discover.

It would be nice if *Sesams*... adopted the same format in the yea... come.

Eva-Maria Le...

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Z... für Deutschland, 12 January ...)

MEDICINE

Heidelberg neurologist probes neuropeptides

...he discovery of neuropeptides a few ... years ago is beginning to change ... concept of the autonomic nervous ...tem that controls intestinal functions ... those of the skin, blood vessels and ... heart.

...s opposed to the voluntary nervous ...tem that controls the movement of ...bs, among other things, the autonomic system is not subject to man's will.

...he prevailing view until recently ... that the functions of our internal ...ans were controlled by stimulating ... retarding impulses of the opposing parasympathetic and sympathetic nervous systems.

Research into neuropeptides, a chain of protein molecules, suggests that the control of internal organs is much more complicated than has hitherto been assumed.

Thus such organs as the heart, the liver and the kidneys are criss-crossed by much finer networks of nerve fibres than has been thought up to now.

Some areas of the heart consist of up to 50 per cent of nerve rather than muscle fibres.

Most are a blend of neurons that respond not only to transmitters but additionally also to a variety of neuropeptides.

In the case of adrenergic nerves, part of the sympathetic system, it is adrenalin that acts as a transmitter substance.

The parasympathetic system includes cholinergic nerves that use the vagus substance acetylcholine as a transmitter.

The presence of several transmitters in in a single nerve cell disproves a 50-year-old neurological theory, the Dale Principle that a single nerve cell uses only one neurotransmitter.

Contrary to this obsolete view, nerve impulses in the autonomic nervous system are transmitted both adrenergically and cholinergically plus peptidergically, as has now been established.

The various neuropeptides such as angiotensine, encephaline, glucagone, neurotensine, somatostatine and the vasoactive intestinal polypeptide (VIP) act simultaneously with the neurotransmitter acetylcholine or adrenaline, thus modulating the sympathetic or parasympathetic transmission of impulses.

Moreover, the two nervous systems are linked through a brain circuit that combines the central and the autonomic nervous systems.

Brain signals thus make it possible to increase or decrease hormone secretions, as in the case of insulin in the pancreas.

But not all regions of the pancreas and other organs have a uniform network of nerves.

Every sector of an organ has its own characteristic nerve network, as explained by neurologist W. G. Forssmann, of Heidelberg University, in a paper delivered at the Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry.

Forssmann has established that adrenergic and cholinergic nerve fibres in the various sections of an organ use widely differing neuropeptides as modulators.

Neuropeptides (releasing or inhibiting factors in the brain) thus not only serve the central nervous system as regulators but also the autonomic nervous system.

Notwithstanding these new insights into the autonomic nervous system, medicine is still far removed from a full understanding of the regulating system for the functioning of organs.

It will be up to further research to clarify whether the vagus nerve, the main nerve of the parasympathetic system, controls the heart chambers directly or whether the heart's own nerve cells have a hand in this.

In any event, immunological tests have now provided answers to some of the questions.

Thus, for instance, bronchial spasms or coronary infarctions that are triggered neither by adrenergic nor by cholinergic impulses can now explained.

The spasm are due to the interplay between the neuropeptide VIP and neurotensine. While the VIP dilates bronchial and coronary vessels, neurotensine contracts them.

These two substances could therefore be of major therapeutic importance if researchers succeeded in reproducing them.

With a VIP preparation in his pocket, an asthma sufferer or a person threatened by a heart attack could avert disaster by taking the preparation in good time.

Toni Both

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 5 January 1983)

One cancer case in 100 due to medicine

One cancer caase in 100 is the result of taking medicine, Professor Ru...lf Preussmann of the Heidelberg ...ancer Research Centre department of ...xicology and chemotherapy has told a ...edical congress in Cologne.

Applied to the Federal Republic of ...rmany, this means that about 1,500 ...ople a year come down with cancer ... a result of having taken carcinogenic ...rugs.

In half of these cases the cancer is ...e, he said, to radiation, either dia...ostic or therapeutic.

Professor Preussmann baes his con...ntion on findings at his own depart...ent and international research results, ...mewhat offhandedly terming cancer ... a result of medication "an undesira... side-effect."

Even so, he suggested that these car...ogenic side-effects should not neces...rily preclude the use of such therapy, ...rovided a risk analysis clearly shows ...t the medication could save or pro...ng life."

He said that the International Cancer ...search Agency (IARC) in Lyon, ...ance, has classified 13 pharmaceuti...ls as carcinogenic, seven of them ...mmonly used in chemotherapy for ...ncer.

The therapeutic use of arsenic (and ...mpounds containing it), which is also ... the IARC list, was discontinued ...me time ago, Professor Preussmann ...d the congress.

There is no conclusive epidemiologi...l information available for 18 other ...spect drugs, though animal experi...nts suggest that they could be harm...l.

In its closing session, the congress ...alt with chirotherapy, the diagnosis ... palpating and therapy by manipula...n of joint and spinal disorders.

Professor Friedrich Loew, medical ...irector of the Neurosurgical Clinic in ...omburg, suggested that the "soft ver...n" of this kind of therapy was suc...ssful and that the mistrust with which ...s viewed in this country was unwar...nted in the light of the positive results ...hieved with it elsewhere, especially in ... USA.

Many patients have been cured of ...ir joint afflictions by this type of ma...pulation.

Harald Biskup

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 January 1983)

Biophysicist helps decipher the language of cells

Plants announce their death by unleashing a firework display invisible to the human eye. But biophysicist Fritz Albert Popp, who discovered biophotones in 1976, has developed a device by which this display can be made visible.

Biophotones are extremely weak light particles emitted by living cells in plants, animals and people.

These biophotone displays are sparse inasmuch as only one biophotone per second falls over an area of one square millimetre (the size of a pinhead).

The science magazine *raum & zeit* has now presented a synopsis of the most important research results in this field.

Most biophotones are ultraviolet and have about the same frequency as the sunrays that cause tanning in humans.

The light emitted by living cells is altered by chemicals. Dying and rapidly growing cells emit more biophotones than their run-of-the mill counterparts.

The biophotones are stored in DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) along with genetic information.

Biophotones can best be described as the language of cells. As a rule, intensified photone emission signals that a plant needs more cells.

In extreme conditions, however, this demand for additional cells, i.e. growth, cannot be met.

Popp treated 20 germinating plants with a deadly poison. It transpired that the seedlings did not die gradually but from one moment to the next, emitting strong biophotone fireworks.

Tests with germinating wheat also led to some surprising results. Seedlings grown in soil with natural fertilisers emitted an orderly stream of biophotones while the emissions of those grown with artificial fertilisers were erratic.

Popp's research could prove particularly useful in testing homoeopathic medication.

Should it become possible to measure the colour and number of biophotones it should also one day be possible to recognise cancer cells at an early stage.

Petra Schulz

(Die Welt, 15 January 1983)

Remote control capsule fires drugs in body

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

A remote-controlled capsule, made of plastic and about the size of a plumstone, transports medication through the intestines, releasing it by remote control where it will do the most good.

Research leading to the development of the capsule began six years ago at the Thomae pharmaceutical company in Biberach.

The researchers wanted to establish what part of the human intestines is most efficient in absorbing a particular type of medication.

To do this, they needed an instrument that would enable them to pinpoint the place in the intestines where the medication enters the bloodstream.

The solution to the problem was a capsule that would travel through the intestines while being monitored on an X-ray screen and would release its therapeutic substance by remote control.

It took three years and DM150,000 to design the world's first intestinal 'satellite.' The capsule is 24 mm long, has a diameter of 12mm and weighs two grams.

The intestinal satellite has two chambers, one of them containing up to 1ml of medication while the second one houses the triggering mechanism.

The mechanism was developed by an electronics engineer at the Battelle Institute in Frankfurt who miniaturised to the point where it would fit into the tiny chamber.

The basic components of the device are a radio receiver, a heating element, a spring, a steel needle and a nylon fibre.

On receiving the signal from the transmitter, the heating element is activated and melts the nylon fibre which in turn releases the spring that drives the steel needle into the chamber containing the medication, thus releasing it.

Blood samples taken from the patient provide a clear indication as to whether the medication was absorbed at exactly the spot where the capsule was fired.

Indigestible

Remote-controlled firing of several capsules can help establish the extent to which specific areas of the intestines can absorb a particular type of medication.

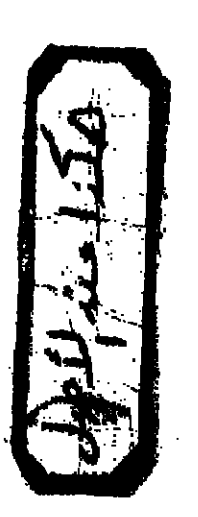
The satellite itself is indigestible and is eliminated with the excreta.

The remote-controlled capsule has many potential applications. Since it can be easily swallowed, it can be used for diagnostic purposes, as in establishing acidity. But it can also be used to activate enzymes.

Therapeutically, it can be used to transport medication to, say, an ulcer and release it where it is needed.

Gottlieb Öchsle

(Der Tagesspiegel, 8 January 1983)



THE PAST

Family patterns in mediaeval Europe examined in Volkswagen survey

Saarbrücker Zeitung

Communal living with several families forming one household is as little a feature peculiar to our day and age as large families comprising several generations were peculiar to the pre-industrial age.

Like today, earlier eras had both small families and large households that included not only the family nucleus but also paid hands, maids, cooks, coachmen and other non-family members.

This is the conclusion arrived at by a team of Vienna University historians and sociologists in a research project financed by the Volkswagen Foundation.

The team, headed by Professor Michael Mitterauer, perused civil and church registers and census reports throughout Europe, involving a total of some 260,000 persons.

Their study comprised the period from the late Middle Ages to the present.

The information, including such individual data age, sex, marital status and position in the family (head of household, housewife, son, daughter, farmhand, maid, paying guest and *Altenteiler*, a farmer who has turned the farm over to his son and continues living in the family), was fed into a computer and evaluated.

It turned out that family and age structures varied widely in previous eras. Women were frequently many decades older than their husbands, stepmothers were younger than their stepchildren and siblings were often decades apart.

There were two basic types of family in Europe, Professor Mitterauer explains in his project report which has been supplemented by a book he co-authored with Dr Reinhard Sieder. The book, entitled *Historische Familienforschung* (Historical Genealogy), was published by Suhrkamp Verlag, Frankfurt.

As to the two types of family, families in the rural areas of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and in parts of the Mediterranean used entirely their own kin for their labour needs while those in Western, Central and Northern Europe used non-related help as well.

Marriage attitudes in the two areas were also different.

East of a line roughly drawn between Leningrad and Trieste people used to marry rather early in the old days, with most girls getting married soon after puberty.

West of that line, women married between the ages of 23 and 25 on average while men were considerably older than that.

The reasons for these late marriages (compared with the East of Europe and non-European societies) can be traced back to the Middle Ages.

They have to do with a family structure dating very far back and marked by the family nucleus, paid hands and other non-family members living in the same household.

In the case of three-generation families, the person in authority was not the farmer who had turned the farm over to his son but the son himself.

Second marriages were common and this included widows. On remarrying, the widow's second husband frequently assumed the position of authority.

As opposed to Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, where property could only be passed on from one male to another, women in the West had relatively early been granted the right to own property.

They had generally more rights in large patriarchal families where marriage did not make the woman a housewife in her own right but kept her under the mother-in-law's tutelage.

But relatives and other household members had little say.

Things were different in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. Here, households usually consisted of several couples, many of them related (though only on the man's side), frequently spanning up to four generations.

The head of the household was the oldest member of the family, mostly the oldest man.

This position of authority could not be passed on to the second husband of a widowed woman and remarriage by women was extremely rare anyway.

People, especially young people, in Central, Western and Northern Europe were usually better off. Due to getting married rather late, they had a long phase of freedom and were fairly adventurous.

They took jobs as farmhands, maids, journeymen, etc., living with other families and seeing quite a bit of the world.

This long period between puberty and marriage also led to problems resulting from sharing a household with non-related people.

This also to some extent explains the strictness of behavioural standards regarding sex in these parts of Europe.

Family structures that had prevailed for centuries were watered down with the dawning of the Industrial Revolution and a great many problems arose, especially in the transition phase, when neither the family nor work for pay provided the necessary security to found and feed a family.

Many people lived without a home of their own as sub-tenants or boarders.

There were also many communal households of non-related persons, common law marriages and a larger number of illegitimate children.

It would be wrong, Professor Mitterauer stresses, to interpret all this as a loosening of moral standards or a sexual revolution, as has been done by many historians.

Five-generation families are coming up now. Having started in A[...] they are beginning to spread to G[...]ny, says gerontologist Professor [...] Lehr of Bonn University's Psy[...] Department.

She suggests that Germany has [...]siderable number of families sp[...] five generations although the ind[...] members frequently live rather f[...] each other.

This is due to the longevity in c[...] and age, with 80- or 90-year-olds [...] great great grandchildren.

A preliminary and very inco[...] survey has so far come up with 15 [...] families. Professor Lehr and he[...] are now trying to track down mo[...] generation families.

Renate I. Mre[...]
(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 15 Janu[...])

Germans in the Middle Ages had bad bones and teeth

Giving birth and getting born was a risky business in the Middle Age, when lack of hygiene and resulting infections led to the death at birth of one-quarter of babies, the second quarter dying in infancy.

The average life expectancy of a newborn baby was therefore only 30 years, 40 years less than in today's industrial nations.

This is the gist of the conclusions arrived at by Mainz anthropologist Dr Winfried Henke and Göttingen medical doctor and anthropologist Michael Schultz after examining 12th to 16th century skeletons taken from the village cemetery of Roden in Westphalia.

The skeletons also yielded much information on diseases and living conditions during that era.

Roden people apparently thought little of dental hygiene, as evidenced by the fact that none of the 30 adult skeletons examined had healthy teeth.

Frequently a set of teeth was marked by caries, tooth loss for one reason or another and abscesses due to causes other than caries. The general state of teeth was abominable and huge tartar deposits were no rarity.

A thorough examination of 28 skulls, or their fragments, with well-preserved jawbones showed that one-fifth of the adult population suffered from chronic jaw diseases that left their traces in the bones in the form of netlike deposits.

Even the skeleton of a 7- to 9-year-old child showed these pathological symptoms.

Chronic infection of the bony[...] the gums was also prevalent at th[...] with nine out of 25 skeletons sh[...] symptoms of it.

Quite a few villagers' skeletons [...]ed signs of dietary deficiencies [...]rious diseases that occurred in [...]hood or early youth.

In times of famine or severe d[...] the body suspends the growth [...] bones in favour of a swift recove[...] the disease, and the subsequent [...] period shows up in X-rays in th[...] of thin calcification layers, the so[...] Harris lines.

Since the Roden skeletons sho[...] high proportion of Harris lines, th[...]clusion was that they had freq[...] been sick or undernourished.

There were also other indicatio[...] poor state of health among the [...]ners. Six out of 24 skeletons had [...] malformations that must have l[...] partial disability during their lifeti[...]

Today, such malformations [...] about 17 per cent of babies at birth.

Degenerative joint diseases wer[...]kedly more frequent among me[...] among women, probably due [...] men's greater physical exertion.

Diseases of the shoulder joint [...] the most frequent, accounting fo[...] per cent, followed by hip joint [...] and knee joints (43.8).

Today, knee joint disorders [...] slightly ahead of those of the hip jo[...]

Diseases of the hip joints ran[...] the top with Roden women, accou[...] for 64.3 per cent of joint disorders.

Some Roden men suffered from [...]cle and tendon inflammations d[...] over-exertion. Five of the male s[...]tons showed fractures that had h[...] well.

The women's skeletons show[...] such injuries, though the skulls o[...] men and one woman showed sig[...] having been bashed with a sharp[...]ed weapon.

The examination of skeletons is [...] the only possibility of gathering [...]mation about the diseases and the [...] of life of our forebears.

This is due to the fact that dis[...] are frequently triggered or influe[...] by such factors as diet, hygiene an[...]ing and working conditions.

Handed-down written docu[...] from the Middle Ages contain virt[...] no information about the lives of si[...] people. Most authors of that era [...]longed to the nobility and did not [...]ther to delve into the lives of the [...]ple.

Ernst Pro[...]
(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 15 Januar[...])

VARIETY

Making wireless contact with the other world



[P]eople have always wondered whether there was such a thing as life [after] death. Did death mark the end, or [was] it the beginning of some other form [of e]xistence?

[M]odern man can prolong life as we [kno]w it. He can fly to the Moon and [will] no doubt sooner or later be able to [trave]l to more distant planets.

[M]an can create artificial life and to a [larg]e extent transform nature, usually to [his] detriment, but establishing contact [with] the other world seems likely to re[main] wishful thinking.

[Th]at won't stop people from trying, [of] course, even though unidentified flying objects almost invariably turn out [no]t to be extra-terrestrial visitors.

[U]FOs are usually natural light reflec[tion]s, always assuming they are not fig[men]ts of someone's imagination. Yet it [is] more than likely that intelligent [bein]gs do exist somewhere else in the [e]ndless universe.

[Ta]pe researchers dispense with di[vinat]ions entirely in their quest for voi[ces] from the great beyond.

[T]hey are the latter-day equivalent of [th]e clairvoyant seances of bygone days at which mysterious knocks sounded on tables and boards to signify "yes" and "no" in answer to the medium's queries.

In the Federal Republic of Germany thousands of people are into the latest technological innovations in their bid to record the voices of the dear departed.

Düsseldorf has for some years boasted a Tape Research Association whose members investigate paranormal tape-recorded voices.

Their aim, the association's statutes state, is to open up fresh perspectives to science by proving the survival of the individual beyond death and thereby to serve the general public.

Wireless contact with the dead can be made in many ways, they claim. Members have a number of hints on how to get voices out of the ether and on to tape.

Switch your recorder on to record and plug in the microphone, then start your side of the conversation.

You may also like to use pre-amplifiers, additional diode circuits and universal wavelength receivers without selective tuning.

Or maybe you would prefer an ordinary radio set tuned to interference and atmospherics between two stations.

Short-wave programmes in the 31-metre band at between 9.8 and 9.9 megahertz are strongly recommended, as are all foreign-language broadcasts for ghost voices speaking German.

TV programmes, both speech and music, likewise reportedly come up at regular intervals with voices of the dead. They can be heard, and taped, just about anywhere, so club members say.

The association is run by Fidelio Köberle, a trained psychologist, who says it was slow going at first.

He started his tape recording experiments in 1969, tuning in for about an hour a day. But he heard nothing for the first six months or so.

"Only then did I hear something that sounded like: 'Can you hear that?' It encouraged me and I decided to buy a tape recorder of my own.

"I asked my conversationalists in the other world what make of recorder to buy. The answer came through loud and clear: 'Buy an Uher!' So there is obviously advertising in the world beyond."

Friedrich Jürgenson, a Swede, pioneered tape recorder research in 1959 when he discovered he had recorded not only birdsong but also a paranormal voice.

Books have since been published and gramophone records pressed recording what are claimed to be voices of the dead.

Usually a whisper

But Jürgenson is only able to record them because of the assistance provided by his studio assistant in the world after death, Lena, who always tells him, usually in a whisper, when to tune in.

People in the other world are not always available for conversation, it seems. Asked whether he has ever conversed with dead relatives, Köberle says he has.

But once the conversation failed to come about and another voice explained: "She is lying down and can't speak."

The Düsseldorf association is a keen collector of recorded voices and will send anyone interested recorded cassettes at cost price.

The voices heard are very often spoken shrilly and hurriedly, so much so that life in the hereafter doesn't seem much fun.

Proper conversations never occur. Maybe the attitude adopted by the interrogator is wrong. Some prefer to tune in in candlelight; others prefer greenish light or joss sticks.

Experienced tape recorder voice researchers advise good manners, friendly greetings and the like: "It pays to be courteous; they appreciate it."

Where do the voices come from? Professor Hans Bender of Freiburg, a specialist in paranormal phenomena, believes the experimenter's unconscious mind puts the voices on tape.

The soul, he says, has this special ability. Herr Köberle on the other hand wishes scientists would believe him at last when he says there are non-corporeal intelligences that can get in touch with us when we call them.

Manufacturers of tape recorders could make a mint of money, and jobs would be saved by the thousand, if we could all listen to our dear departed on tape rather than just use the telephone in the normal way.

At the monitoring service run by Deutsche Welle in Cologne to keep track of round-the-clock transmissions all over the world one frequency is constantly kept open for extra-terrestrial intelligences.

Staff at the monitoring service have tuned in day and night without making speech contact with the dead.

Wilhelm Quenzer, who works for a Protestant Church research unit, has looked into the phenomenon for some time but doesn't believe in it.

Bernd Marx of the secretariat of the German Episcopal Conference, a Roman Catholic body, is likewise an unbeliever.

He refutes the claim, made recently by a major European broadcasting corporation, that the Pope is interested in tape recorder "voice" research.

The spoken word travels at a specific speed along sound waves. It is about 300,000 km a second, which means that it takes a voice several minutes to get from here to the Sun.

It would take billions of year for a voice to travel from one end of the universe to another. So just where is the hereafter?

Asked how long he has to wait before hearing a dead person's answers to his questions, Fidelio Köberle answers promptly.

"Sometimes," he says, "before I even start."

Hans Joachim Holtz
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 January 1983)

Düsseldorf psychologist Fidelio Köberle in conversation with the world beyond
(Photo: dpa)